

E.T. Phone Home

E.T. comes back to Earth with alien friends and visits Belfast Area High School. They have been sent on this return mission to collect information on how life originated on Earth.

Your task (and you have to accept it!) is to choose a theory on the origin of life on Earth and explain it to them in detail. You may do this in the form of:

1. An essay
2. A written newspaper article

Choose from this list of scientific theories on the beginning of life:

1. Endosymbiosis
2. Meteorites
3. Primordial Soup
4. Iron Pyrite – Thermal Vents

To meet the standard you should:

- ❖ Explain the setting (where)
- ❖ Give evidence (why)
- ❖ Explain how it works (how)
- ❖ General time frame (when)
- ❖ What examples can you give that suggest to you that this is the most solid explanation for how life began?

ET Phone Home Scoring Guide

Standard: Students will understand the basis for all life and that all living things change over time.

Performance Indicator	1 Does not meet	2 Partially meets	3 Meets	4 Exceeds
D.6 Analyze a theory scientists use to explain the origin of life.	Correctly and completely explains two or fewer of the items in #3 OR Incorrectly explains the items in #3.	Correctly and completely explains three of the items in #3 OR Incompletely explains the items in #3.	Correctly and completely explains: the setting of the theory (where), the evidence (why), the way it works (how), and the general time frame (when).	Correctly and completely explain: the setting of the theory (where), the evidence (why), the way it works (how), the general time frame (when) and gives examples that illustrate that this is the most solid explanation.