

Cognitive verbs in the P–10 Australian Curriculum: Science

Overview

Key	
AS	Achievement standard
CD	Content description

The table below shows how the most common cognitive verbs across the Australian Curriculum are used in Science, along with other cognitive verbs (*italicised*) that are particularly important to student thinking in this subject. The cognitive verbs are categorised using Marzano and Kendall's (2007) four levels of cognitive process: retrieval, comprehension, analysis and knowledge utilisation. For the full list of common cognitive verbs, refer to the *Categories of common cognitive verbs* at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au.

Cognitive process ¹	Cognitive verb	Prep (Foundation)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Knowledge utilisation	Conduct				CD	AS, CD			CD	CD		
	<i>Construct</i>						AS, CD	AS, CD	CD	AS, CD	CD	AS, CD
	Decide						CD	CD				
	Develop						CD	AS				AS
	Discuss					AS	AS					AS
	Evaluate								CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD
	Justify									AS		AS
	Predict		AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS	AS
	Solve							CD	CD			CD
Analysis	Analyse						AS	AS	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD
	Apply					AS	CD	CD		AS	AS	AS
	Classify						AS	AS	AS			
	Compare		CD	AS, CD	CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD		AS		
	Consider				CD	CD				AS		
	Examine									AS		
	Interpret							AS				
	Reflect on	AS			CD	CD	CD	CD	CD	AS, CD		

Cognitive process ¹	Cognitive verb	Prep (Foundation)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Comprehension	Communicate		CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD
	Describe	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS	AS	AS, CD	AS, CD
	Explain					AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS
	<i>Organise</i>					AS	AS	AS	AS			
	Represent	CD	CD	AS, CD	CD	CD	CD	CD	AS, CD	CD		AS
	Summarise								AS, CD	CD		
Retrieval	Identify				AS, CD	AS	CD	AS, CD	AS	AS		AS
	<i>Measure</i>						CD	CD	CD	CD		
	Select								AS, CD	CD	CD	AS, CD
	Use	CD	CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD	AS, CD

¹ Kendall, J & Marzano, R 2007, *The New Taxonomy of Educational Objectives*, Corwin Press, Thousand Oaks, CA.