Standards and Assessment Vocabulary Science – Grades 3-4

The purpose of the Assessment Vocabulary is to highlight vocabulary used in assessment items that teachers can use to prepare students for ISTEP+ and use when creating classroom assessments. While this list is not inclusive of all vocabulary that may appear on the assessment, it is representative of words and phrases students may frequently encounter.

Key Word or Phrase	Notes
Describe	 Some examples: Using the information in the graph, describe how temperature affects the amount of time it takes for a mosquito to grow from a larva to an adult. Describe the information you used to determine
Explain	 Explain your answer. Some examples: Give two different reasons that could explain why their measurements were very different from each other. (Also see Results/Data below)
Investigation	An example:Name one tool Emma used to complete her investigation.
Predict	An example:Using the data presented, what prediction can be made?
Results/Data	 Organize data/results in a chart. Some examples: Do the results in the table support the idea that batteries which cost more will last longer? Explain your answer. Use data from the graph to explain how you know
Scientific Tool/Science Tool	 Tools, as opposed to materials Ruler, meter stick, clock An example: Identify tools needed to take measurements.