Concept Storyline: Experimenting with Mixtures, Compounds, and Elements

UNIFYING THEME	UNIT CONCEPT	GRADE-LEVEL CONCEPTS
All matter consists of mixtures, compounds, and elements.	Mixtures, compounds, and elements can be distinguished by their physical and chemical properties.	 Mixtures have the properties of their components and can be separated by physical means. Compounds have properties different from those of their constituent elements and can be separated by chemical means. Elements are the basic forms of matter, have unique physical and chemical properties, and cannot be separated into other forms.

SUBCONCEPT 1

Students have ideas, preconceptions, and misconceptions about pure substances and mixtures.

Lesson 1: The Nature of Matter

Students complete a circuit of eight inquiries that introduces concepts about pure substances and mixtures studied in the unit.

SUBCONCEPT 2

Substances can be classified as pure substances or mixtures based on their composition and behavior.

Lesson 2: Pure Substance or Mixture?

Students investigate the appearance, behavior, and possible separation of substances.

Lesson 3: Separating a Soluble and an Insoluble Substance

Students use filtering to separate an insoluble solid from a mixture.

Lesson 4: Separating Solutes

Students use paper chromatography to separate a mixture of inks and identify an unknown substance.

Lesson 5: Changing Mixtures

Students investigate the effects of the components of a mixture on its characteristic properties.

SUBCONCEPT 3

A compound has properties different from its constituent elements and can be separated only by chemical means.

Lesson 6: Breaking Down a Compound

Students use electrolysis to separate water and test the properties of its components.

SUBCONCEPT 4

Elements can be identified by their physical appearance, chemical structure, and behavior.

Lesson 7: Examining and Grouping Elements

Students examine the properties and behavior of elements to classify them and compare their system with the periodic table.

SUBCONCEPT 5

Elements can be combined chemically to form compounds.

Lesson 8: Combining Elements

Students form a new compound by combining an element with oxygen.

Lesson 9: Exploration Activity

Students select a compound and study its formation from constituent elements, physical and chemical properties, history, and uses. They present their findings to the class.

Lesson 10: Chemical Reactions Involving Metals

Students investigate the reaction rates of metals with acids and the properties of acids and bases.

Lesson 11: Countering Corrosion

Students investigate the reaction rates of metals with oxygen and the means of countering corrosion.

SUBCONCEPT 6

Mass remains constant during chemical reactions.

Lesson 12: Mass and Chemical Reactions

Students calculate changes in mass when an effervescent tablet reacts with water.

Lesson 13: Final Assessment

Students complete performance and written assessments of their understanding of the concepts and processes in the unit.