



NATIONAL CURRICULUM STATEMENT (NCS) 2012

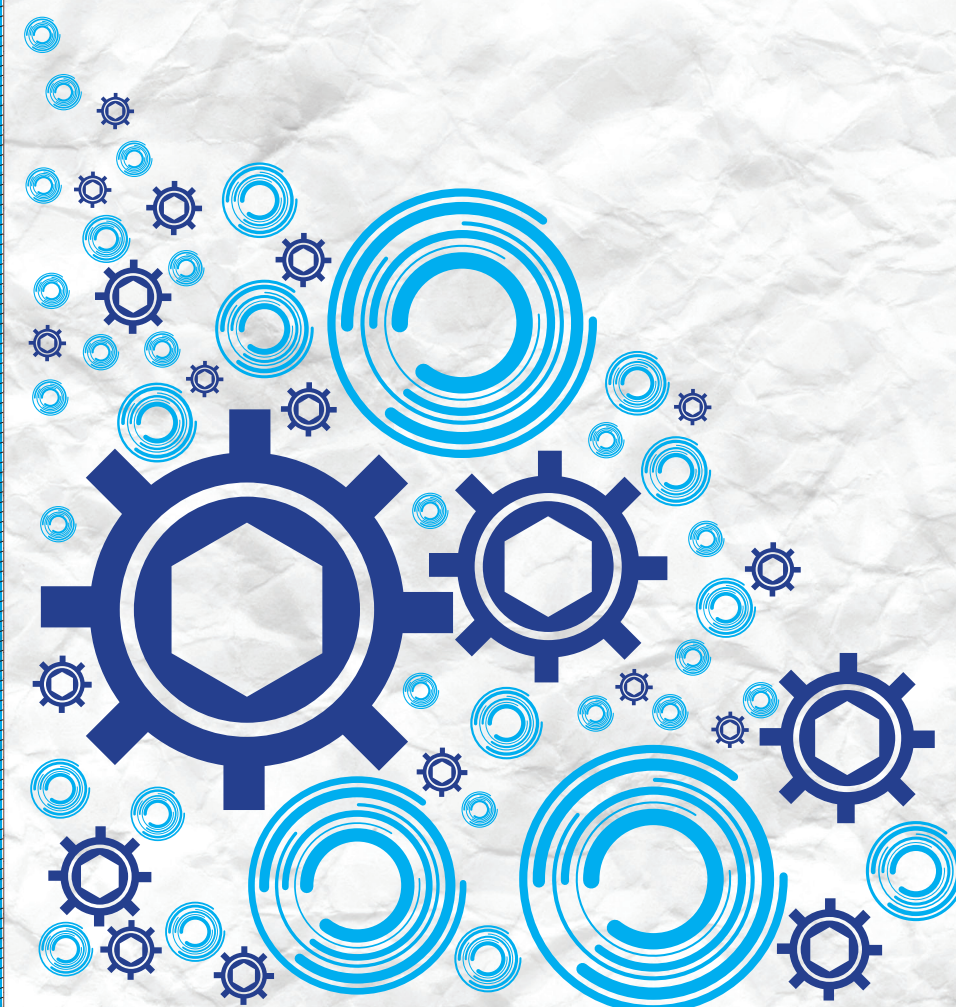
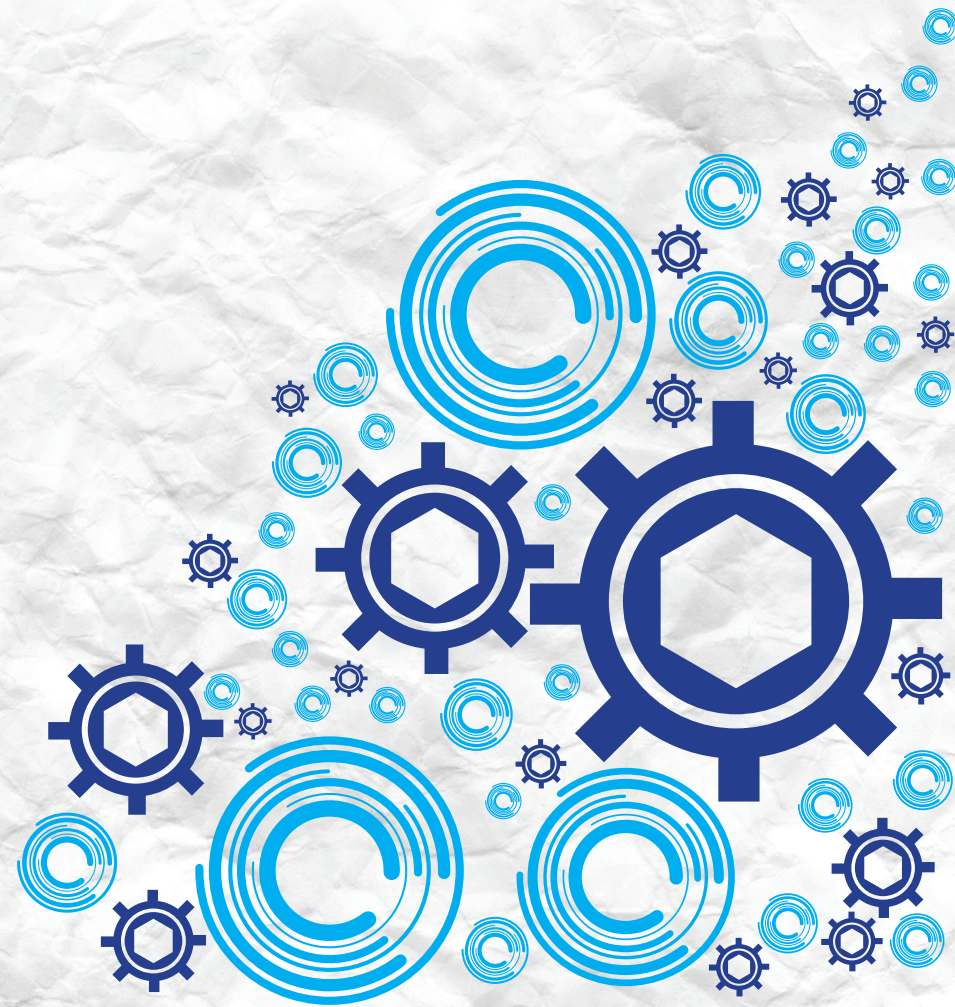
NATURAL SCIENCES

CAPS ORIENTATION 2013 • SENIOR PHASE GRADE 7-9

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NATURAL SCIENCES



basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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NATURAL SCIENCES

WHAT IS SCIENCE?

Science is a systematic way of looking for explanations and connecting the ideas we have. In Science certain methods of inquiry and investigation are generally used. These methods lend themselves to replication and a systematic approach to scientific inquiry that attempts at objectivity. The methods include formulating hypotheses, and designing and carrying out experiments to test the hypotheses. Repeated investigations are undertaken, and the methods and results are carefully examined and debated before they are accepted as valid.

The science knowledge we teach at school is not in doubt – most of it has been tested and known since the 1800s – but a good teacher will tell the learners something of the arguments and confusion among the people who were the first to investigate this knowledge.

Science also explores the frontiers of the unknown. There are many unanswered questions such as: Why is climate changing around the world? What is making the universe expand? What causes the earth’s magnetic field to change? As with all knowledge, scientific knowledge changes over time as scientists acquire new information and people change their ways of viewing the world.

Specific aims

Specific Aim 1: ‘Doing Science’

Learners should be able to complete investigations, analyse problems and use practical processes and skills in evaluating solutions.

Specific Aim 2: ‘Knowing the subject content and making connections’

Learners should have a grasp of scientific, technological and environmental knowledge and be able to apply it in new contexts.

Specific Aim 3: ‘Understanding the uses of Science ’

Learners should understand the uses of Natural Sciences and indigenous knowledge in society and the environment.

