

Science — Syllabus Guide for Parents

Classes 3 to 10 · What your child will be tested on, and how

What This Olympiad Tests

The iThinkers Science Olympiad checks whether your child can **think like a scientist** about real-world questions — running a fair test, reading data sensibly, spotting a shaky claim — not just recall definitions. A science fact is never asked “naked”; it always appears wrapped in a real situation or a use. Environment and sustainability are woven through every class, always shown as something a child can understand and act on, never as something to worry about. Every topic is drawn from what your child is already taught in school (NCERT / CBSE / major state boards).

Exam Format at a Glance

Format	30 to 45 Multiple Choice Questions, 1 mark each, depending on class
Duration	45 minutes
Negative marking	None — every attempt counts, so children can try every question with confidence
Answer sheet	OMR sheet, filled with a 2B pencil
Who takes this paper	Classes 3 to 10 (younger learners build these skills through Maths & English MiniVerse activities first)

The Skill Areas Your Child Will Build

Every question — from LKG to Class 10 — falls under one of these four skill areas. They stay the same every year, so you can watch your child's growth along a single thread as they move up the classes.

Skill Area	Starts as (early years)	Grows into (by Class 10)
Living Systems	Plants, animals, and my body	Life processes, heredity, ecosystems and evolution
Physical Systems	Materials, light, sound and motion, at play level	Force, energy, electricity, chemical reactions and the periodic table
Earth & Space	Weather, water and the sky	Natural resources, climate, our environment and the universe
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Telling an observation apart from a guess; a fair test	Designing and critiquing investigations; judging data, sources and claims

How We Ask Questions

iThinkers questions are not about memorising facts. Each question is designed to check one of these four thinking abilities:

How questions are asked	What it means for your child
Explain It	Use a science idea to explain something familiar — why a plant wilts, why a ball falls back down.
Design & Judge a Test	Spot whether an experiment is fair, identify what should be kept the same, and judge if a conclusion goes too far.
Read the Data	Interpret a table, graph or trend and draw a conclusion the data actually supports.

Decide What to Trust

Weigh a claim or source — telling real evidence apart from an unsupported or misleading one.



What Your Child Will Learn, Class by Class

Find your child's class below to see exactly which topics are covered. These are the same topics your child's school already teaches (NCERT/CBSE/state-board common core) — iThinkers simply asks about them in a more thoughtful, real-life way.

Class 3		age ~8–9
Living Systems	Living vs non-living, plant parts and their jobs, what plants need, animal homes/food/young ones, sense organs and their care	
Physical Systems	Materials around us (wood, metal, plastic, cloth) and their properties, float/sink, hot/cold	
Earth & Space	Weather & seasons, sources of water, day and night, the Sun	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Observing vs guessing, sorting by a property, recognising a fair test	
Class 4		age ~9–10
Living Systems	Plant parts (roots, stems, leaves), animal adaptations & life cycles, food sources and healthy eating, teeth & digestion basics	
Physical Systems	Solids/liquids/gases, soluble & insoluble materials, push/pull & friction, light & shadows	
Earth & Space	Air around us, the water cycle introduced, the Moon & stars	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Keeping variables the same, reading a simple bar chart or table, drawing a conclusion from a picture-experiment	
Class 5		age ~10–11
Living Systems	Plant reproduction (seeds, dispersal), animal life cycles, human body systems introduced (skeletal, breathing, digestion), balanced diet, germs & prevention	
Physical Systems	States of matter and changes (melting, evaporation, condensation), reflection of light, simple machines, electric circuits, conductors & insulators	
Earth & Space	The water cycle in full, natural resources & conservation introduced, weather, the solar system introduced	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Fair test with a control, interpreting a line or bar graph, evidence vs opinion	
Class 6		age ~11–12
Living Systems	Components of food & nutrients, deficiency diseases, photosynthesis introduced, body movements & joints, habitats & adaptation	
Physical Systems	Sorting & separating materials, reversible/irreversible changes, light/shadows/reflections, electric circuits, magnets, motion & measurement	
Earth & Space	Water sources, scarcity & conservation, air composition & uses, waste management	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Identifying variables, interpreting two-column data, judging which claim the evidence supports, spotting a trustworthy source	

Class 7		age ~12–13
Living Systems	Nutrition & respiration in plants and animals, transport in plants/animals (blood & circulation introduced), reproduction in plants, climate & animal adaptation	
Physical Systems	Heat & temperature (conduction/convection/radiation), acids/bases/salts, physical & chemical changes, speed, electric current, light (mirrors, lenses introduced), storms & cyclones	
Earth & Space	Water as a resource, forests, wastewater, soil	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Full control of variables, interpreting trend data & graphs, telling observation apart from inference, comparing two sources on a claim	

Class 8		age ~13–14
Living Systems	Crop production & management, microorganisms, cell structure & functions, reproduction in animals, adolescence, conservation of plants & animals	
Physical Systems	Synthetic fibres & plastics, metals & non-metals, combustion & flame, chemical effects of electric current, force & pressure, friction, sound, light	
Earth & Space	Coal & petroleum, air & water pollution, stars & the solar system	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Designing a fair test & justifying controls, interpreting multi-series data, telling evidence apart from assertion, spotting pseudoscience	

Class 9		age ~14–15
Living Systems	The cell as the fundamental unit of life, tissues, diversity in living organisms, improvement in food resources	
Physical Systems	Matter and its states, atoms & molecules, structure of the atom, motion, force & laws of motion, gravitation, work/energy/power, sound	
Earth & Space	Natural resources (air, water, soil cycles), biogeochemical cycles	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Critiquing investigation design, analysing quantitative data, judging whether evidence supports a conclusion, telling correlation apart from causation	

Class 10		age ~15–16
Living Systems	Life processes (nutrition, respiration, transport, excretion), control & coordination, reproduction, heredity & evolution	
Physical Systems	Chemical reactions & equations, acids/bases/salts, metals & non-metals, carbon compounds, the periodic table, light, the human eye, electricity, magnetic effects, sources of energy	
Earth & Space	Our environment (ecosystems, food chains, ozone, waste), management of natural resources	
Scientific Enquiry & Evidence	Full investigation critique, analysing complex data, weighing competing explanations, deciding on real energy/environment questions using evidence	

A Sample Question

Class 9 example: A town notices that both ice-cream sales and swimming-pool drownings rise in the same months. What is the best scientific reading of this?

(a) Ice cream causes drownings (b) Drownings cause ice-cream sales (c) **Both rise because of a third factor — hot**

weather; one does not cause the other ✓ (d) The numbers are wrong

This checks whether a child can tell correlation apart from causation — one of the most useful everyday thinking skills science teaches, well beyond any single fact or formula.

What Makes iThinkers Different

- Real-life, application-based questions that build thinking, not just recall — “Questions that build minds, not just test memory.”
- A free practice portal for every registered child — no extra books to buy, instant feedback, works on any device.
- Deep, question-level reports for parents and teachers — beyond a rank, showing genuine strengths and gaps.
- Children are benchmarked, not ranked against each other — the focus stays on each child's own growth.
- Zero parent contact data collected — only basic student information is used, ever.

This guide is a parent-friendly summary. It does not change or add to what your child's school teaches — every topic here sits inside your child's regular curriculum.

