The unit, like all hands-on science, requires a large variety of materials to support various ways of learning (including doing, discussing, listening, watching, reading, and writing). Prepare in advance by collecting the materials and equipment needed for all the demonstrations and hands-on investigations.

- Roll paper, poster board, or a bulletin board should be dedicated at the beginning of the unit to serve as a question board to cumulatively document and return to student questions. The question board is referred to in the materials for lesson segments in which it is used but is not repeated in the materials listed here.
- Internet access and the means to project images/videos for whole-class viewing is also required in many lesson segments but is not repeated below.

**Lesson 1 Organisms and Their Environments**

**Lesson 1.1**
- hand lenses (1 per pair)

**Lesson 2 Plant Changes in Environments**

**Lesson 2.1**
- hand lenses (1 per pair)
- trowel or small shovel

**Lesson 2.2**
- melon, sunflower, grass, or bean seeds (2 per student)
- transparent plastic cups (1 per student)
- potting soil
- watering can
- access to water
- marker to label plastic cups

**Lesson 3 Animal Changes in Environments**

**Lesson 3.1**
- hand lenses (1 per pair)
- trowel or small shovel

**Lesson 3.2**
- hand lenses (1 per pair)

**Lesson 5 Taking Care of the Environment**

**Lesson 5.2**
- multiple clean empty glass bottles, water/juice cans, cardboard boxes, paper, plastic water bottles, plastic containers to be recycled, perhaps from the school cafeteria
- sorting containers, such as paper grocery store bags, labeled (cardboard, glass, cans, paper, plastic)
- variety of items made from recycled materials, such as paper, paper towels, trash bags, cardboard packaging
- gloves

**Lesson 5.3**
- water source
- large pan
- measuring cup
- hand soap
- variety of items made from recycled materials: paper, paper towels, trash bags

**Unit Supplement**

- trays (1 per group)
- potting mix soil (8-qt bag)
- garden soil (8-qt bag)
- peat moss (8-qt bag)
- craft sticks (1 per student)
- hand lenses (1 per group)
- paper cups (3 per group)
- tweezers (1 per group)