## Connecting to the *Next Generation Science Standards* (NGSS Lead States 2013) Standard Standard

MS-ESS1-4: Earth's Place in the Universe

The chart below makes one set of connections between the instruction outlined in this article and the *NGSS*. Other valid connections are likely; however, space restrictions prevent us from listing all possibilities.

## Performance Expectation

**MS-ESS1-4:** Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence from rock strata for how the geologic time scale is used to organize Earth's 4.6-billion-year-old history.

Dimensions	Classroom Connections
Science and Engineering Practices Analyzing and Interpreting Data	Students analyze and interpret data from the Paleobiology Database including taxa and geologic age data.
Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking	Students use math to compute the passage of time over large geologic time scales.
<b>Disciplinary Core Ideas</b> <b>ESS1.C:</b> The History of Planet Earth The geologic time scale interpreted from rock strata provides a way to organize Earth's history. Analyses of rock strata and the fossil record provide only relative dates, not an absolute scale.	Students discover how relative dating of rock strata provides a way to organize Earth's history using fossil data from the Paleobiology Database.
Crosscutting Concepts Scale, Proportion, and Quantity	Students observe geologic time at various scales to study large quantities of Earth history.
Stability and Change	Students investigate geologic time through observations of stability and change in organisms as represented in the fossil record.

## Connections to the Common Core State Standards (NGAC and CCSSO 2010)

## Mathematics

CCSS.Math.MP.2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.