



## Strand Map: Understandability of the World

### Introduction

This sequence of benchmarks leads to the literacy goal in *Science for All Americans (SFAA)* that (a) science assumes that events in the universe occur in consistent patterns that are comprehensible through systematic study; and (b) the universe is a vast single system in which the basic rules are everywhere the same (*SFAA*, Chapter 1: The Nature of Science). The generalization that the universe is a vast single system in which the basic rules are everywhere the same can both contribute to and be reinforced by the concrete example of Newton's demonstration that the same laws apply to motion in the heavens and on earth (hence the two-directional arrow in the strand map). Other examples that contribute to understanding the idea of universality and which are not included in this strand can be identified in *Benchmarks for Science Literacy* with the help of the Also See box (in *Benchmarks on Disk* the SEE ALSO command in the BROWSE window).



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