Science Standards Guidance

Elementary School Science

Options in Course Sequences

Science standards at the elementary school level are grade specific; however, may be taught at any time and in any order throughout the school year. For this reason, districts are encouraged to exercise their local control and map the standards to units where they see fit. At the elementary school level much discussion has been had regarding how to group the standards to provide the appropriate depth of rigor throughout the school year. The intent of this document is to provide guidance considering themes and units that could scaffold in a meaningful way for both a balanced implementation and assessment system. The criteria for evaluating the suggested sequence included consideration of developmental milestones / rigor, interconnectedness of concepts and time of year.

Quick Links

- Kindergarten
- First Grade
- Second Grade
- Third Grade
- Fourth Grade
- Fifth Grade

It is important to remember that Science is a core subject area that requires explicit instruction and time at the elementary level. The recommended amount of time for science instruction is **45 minutes per day**, however the decision of how much time to devote to science instruction is a local control decision.

Kindergarten

Sun & Shade K-PS3-1 K-PS3-2 Weather K-ESS2-1 K-ESS3-2 Motion K-PS2-1 K-PS2-2	Plant / Animal Needs & Relationships K-LS1-1 K-ESS2-2 K-ESS3-1 Environmental Solutions K-ESS3-3

First Grade

Parents and Offspring 1-LS1-2 1-LS3-1 Learning From Plants and Animals 1-LS1-1 Patterns in the Sky 1-ESS1-1 1-ESS1-2	Light and Darkness 1-PS4-2 1-PS4-3 Sound and Vibrations 1-PS4-1 Communicating Across Distances 1-PS4-4

Second Grade

Plants with Seeds 2-LS2-1 2-LS2-2 Habitats, Land and Water 2-LS4-1 2-ESS2-2 2-ESS2-3	Material Properties and Changes 2-PS1-1 2-PS1-2 2-PS1-3 2-PS1-4 Earth Events- Slow and Quick 2-ESS2-1 2-ESS1-1

Third Grade

Force & Motion 3-PS2-1 3-PS2-2 Electric & Magnetic 3-PS2-3 3-PS2-4 Weather and World Climate 3-ESS3-1 3-ESS2-2 3-ESS2-1	Lifecycles and Inheritance 3-LS4-2 3-LS3-1 3-LS3-2 3-LS1-1 Environment and Survival 3-LS2-1 3-LS3-1 3-LS4-1 3-LS4-3 3-LS4-4

Fourth Grade

Earth Features 4-ESS2-1 4-ESS2-2 4-ESS1-1 Hazards and Renewable Resources 4-ESS3-2 4-ESS3-1 Energy Conversions and Collisions 4-PS3-2 4-PS3-3 4-PS3-4 4-PS3-1	External structures 4-LS1-1 Vision and Processing 4-PS4-3 4-PS4-2 4-LS1-2 Properties of Water Waves 4-PS4-1

Fifth Grade

Properties of Matter 5-PS1-1 5-PS1-2 5-PS1-3 5-PS1-4 Stars in the Sky 5-ESS1-1 5-ESS1-2	Life and Cycles of Matter 5-PS3-1 5-LS2-1 5-LS1-1 5-ESS2-1 Water Availability and Protection 5-ESS3-1 5-ESS2-2 Gravity 5-PS2-1

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