BALANCED INSTRUCTION

Science instruction balances core knowledge with crosscutting concepts and science and engineering practices. Through obtaining, evaluating and communicating information, students are actively engaged in a range of learning experiences that foster a comprehensive knowledge of science.

Embedded **Practices**

• Students engage in meaningful and challenging learning activities that address their unique characteristics and needs.

- Students engage in learning experiences that foster communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking.
- Students leverage a variety of digital and print resources to learn content and demonstrate what they know.

Investigate & Connect

- Students gather information and evaluate claims.
- Students solve real-world problems.
- Students ask questions to plan and carry out investigations.
- Students apply mathematics and computational thinking to make sense of data.

Evaluate Information

- Students evaluate claims, methods, and designs.
- Students analyze and interpret data.
- Students apply mathematical and computational thinking to evaluate quantitative relationships.
- Students develop conclusions and solutions supported by evidence.
- Students read technical text and evaluate claims, methods, and designs.

Communicate Findings

- Students communicate ideas and methods they generate.
- Students use argumentation supported by evidence to validate claims.
- Students construct models to communicate ideas.
- Students share ideas and methods they generate through technical writing.

Crosscutting Concepts

Students apply crosscutting concepts across all disciplines throughout the K-12 science experiences. These include: Patterns, Cause and

Effect; Scale, Proportion and Quantity; System and System Models, Energy and Matter, Structure and Function, and Stability and Change. Progression of crosscutting concepts from grade to grade ensures students demonstrate mastery of core knowledge and skills.

Core **Knowledge** & Skills

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Students engage in core scientific knowledge integrated with science and engineering practices to build a foundation to think and act as a scientist. By developing skills and strategies to investigate and solve problems, students build knowledge. This

knowledge, paired with curiosity, provides

students opportunities to observe, interpret and

make scientific connections to the outside world.

