



Science Curriculum - Fourth Grade

Capital's science curriculum is aligned with state and national standards. Teachers utilize research-based materials and strategies to provide all students with experiences in the life, earth, and physical sciences while developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students will develop an understanding of important science concepts as they demonstrate process skills such as observing, measuring, predicting, and communicating. The science curriculum engages students in hands-on, inquiry-based, integrated units which serve as a foundation for success in an increasingly-complex scientific and technological world.

This year your child's curriculum will include the following:

Cycle One: Structures of Life

- How does structure relate to function in living systems?
- How do responses to internal and external cues aid in an organism's survival?
- How do organisms change as they go through their life cycles?
- How does an organism depend on its basic needs for its survival and growth?

Cycle Two: Magnetism & Electricity

- Explain what is needed to complete a simple circuit and why?
- Describe and explain the path of electricity through a given circuit.
- What happens to a light bulb when connected to a complete circuit and explain why?
- Given metallic and non-metallic objects, explain which you would use to complete a circuit and why?
- How is the flow of electricity the same and different in a series versus parallel circuit? How would you tell?
- Given certain materials, how would you classify them as magnetic/non-magnetic?

Cycle Three: Land & Water

- How does understanding the properties of Earth materials and the physical laws that govern their behavior lead to prediction of Earth events?
- How do changes in one part of Earth systems affect other parts of the system?
- In what ways can Earth's processes be explained as interactions among cycles?
- How do the systems interact and allow us to explain observations or events and make predictions?
- How does human interaction affect changes in the landscape?
- How can we use a model to predict nature?
- How does the water cycle affect the land?
- How would land shape and soil composition affect how the land can be used?
- How would land shape and soil composition affect erosion?

For more information about your child's Science curriculum, please contact your child's teacher or call the Curriculum Office at 857-4228.