

5th Grade Science Syllabus 2011-2012

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Course Description

Fifth grade science is a general course that includes physical science, life science, and earth science. The science process skills are put into practice and honed throughout the year with many engaging activities. Numerous parts of the Holland Hall campus are used as an outdoor classroom to intrigue students and provide firsthand discoveries in nature. Science is taught as an active process, as an objective lens through which we view the world around us.

Benchmarks

- Demonstrates an understanding of important concepts and ideas presented.
- Works productively in partnerships, successfully applies collaborative skills.
- Consistently applies active reading skills to acquire scientific concepts.
- Demonstrates the ability to use relevant skills during scientific investigations.
- Effectively communicates in writing an understanding of scientific concepts and ideas.

Preparation for Class/ Course Materials

The *CPO Life Science* text book

National Geographic for Kids

Usual school supplies, including a flash drive, are supplied by the student.

Lab equipment and associated materials, informational handouts, specimens for dissection, various publications and resource books, and teacher-created units are provided by the teacher.

Methods of Instruction

Students will use the scientific method to explore concepts about living things, basic chemistry, simple machines and forces. They will see and discuss high interest scientific videos with real world examples of topics being studied. They will benefit from activities involving programs such as Windows on Science, Science Enrichment, and A.I.M.S. (Academic Integration in Math and Science). Students will use engaging publications such as Kids Discover and National Geographic for Kids. Internet usage, creative projects, note-taking, SMART Board lessons, and the great outdoors will be used in their learning as well. Topics of study will be introduced and presented in ways that pique the students' curiosity and with a flare and passion that appeals to different learning styles.

Assessment

Grades in fifth grade science come from a variety of evaluations. A student's daily work, classroom participation, homework, projects, collaborative work, quizzes and tests will all be included. See *MS Student handbook for late work policy*.

Projected Course Schedule

This class meets five days a week: Monday through Thursday for 50 minutes and on Friday for 35 minutes.