



Three-dimensional science standards in the elementary grades lay the foundation for students to work and think like scientists and engineers. We also see strong connections to skills students will use to be successful with reading, literacy, and mathematics. In elementary grades, we will explore disciplinary core ideas in physical, life, and Earth and space sciences via phenomena in the world around us. Learners in elementary grades develop and ask testable questions, collect, and analyze different types of evidence, and write and communicate our understanding. Mastery of these standards will result in young learners who have a deep understanding of how scientific knowledge can provide solutions to practical problems we see in our world.

Expectations for 3rd Grade Students:

- **Physical Science:** Recognize that objects in contact can exert a force on each other. Understand that electric and magnetic force between objects do not require contact, and that patterns of motion can be used to predict future motion.
- **Life Science:** Recognize that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles, and vary in how they look and function because they have different inherited information. Explain how being part of a group helps animals obtain food, defend themselves, and cope with changes. Understand that some living organisms resemble organisms that once lived on Earth.
- **Earth and Space Science:** Explain how climate describes patterns of typical weather conditions over different scales and variations. Understand that a variety of weather hazards result from natural processes, and that although humans cannot eliminate weather-related hazards, we can reduce their impact.

Throughout 3rd Grade You May Find Students:

- Asking questions to determine the cause and effect relationship of electric or magnetic forces between objects.
- Planning and conducting investigations about the effects of balanced and unbalanced force on an object.
- Developing models to describe how though organisms have unique and diverse life cycles, all organisms experience birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
- Obtaining and combining information to describe climates in different regions of the world.
- Making claims about the merit of a design solution that reduces the impacts of a weather-related hazard.