

Grade 3 Science Curriculum Map

By the end of third grade, students will gain an understanding of how the Sun provides energy for life on Earth. Students apply their understanding of light and sound waves, how they travel, are detected, and transfer energy. Students learn that organisms have different structures and functions which increase their chances of survival. Student investigations focus on collecting and making sense of observational data and simple measurements using the science and engineering practices: ask questions and define problems, develop and use models, plan and carry out investigations, analyze and interpret data, use mathematics and computational thinking, construct explanations and design solutions, engage in argument from evidence, and obtain, evaluate, and communicate information. While individual lessons may include connections to any of the crosscutting concepts, the standards in third grade focus on helping students understand phenomena through systems and system models and structure and function.

Notes:

- The standards referenced in this document can be found linked [here](#)
- The standard number is designed for recording purposes and does not imply instructional sequence or importance.
- In all disciplines, educators should incorporate scientific measurement skills appropriate to that discipline.

Unit #	Unit Title	Key Content	Standards
1	Sound Design Waves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship between light, objects, and the human eye • How sound waves affect objects at varying distances • How light and sound waves transfer energy 	3.P2U1.1 3.P2U1.2 3.P4U1.3
2 & 3	Structures of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal and external structures of plants and animals • Functions of plant and animal structures that aid in growth and survival • Ways in which plants and animals react to stimuli • Flow of energy from the Sun to and among living organisms • Interdependence of organisms 	3.L1U1.5 3.L2U1.6 3.L2U1.7 3.L2U3.8 3.E1U1.4

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sun as primary source of energy impacting Earth systems	
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