

Main Unit

EarthLinks

EarthLinks	Gifted Kindergarten
Content Area: What is the core subject area?	Timeline:
science	14 weeks
Rationale/Purpose:	
<p>As students study the ecology of earth's land, water, and air, they will be encouraged to think about the relationships between them and how those relationships need to remain in balance. By understanding basic ecology, students will learn that they have an impact on their natural surroundings. Students will discover how decisions they make can affect their environment both now and in the future. Through experiments and hands-on learning activities, students will analyze how living things are linked to each other and the environment, how people find and use natural resources, and how people can take care of their environment, both now and for future generations. Using problem solving and critical thinking students in this unit will determine some possible ecological issues and propose some solutions. Once students have ideas about how to help, they will share their ideas with others.</p>	
Description:	
<p>Students will explain how the choices they make can positively or negatively impact the environment through conducting many experiments and participating in hands-on projects. Students will pass on this information by creating an Ecology Festival Booth and presenting what they have learned.</p>	
Enduring Understandings:	
<p>K.CR.A.1 Standard: Collaboratively and independently identify elements of an issue EU 1.1 Decision making requires a process of gathering, analyzing, and applying information and ideas. (parts of an environment are separate, yet interdependent on one another) K. CR.C.2 Standard: Use facts to support ideas, decisions, and opinions EU 1.1 Decision making requires a process of gathering, analyzing, and applying information and ideas. (ideas must be supported by facts, opinions, or conclusions based on facts and opinions) K.CR.B.1 Standard: With guidance, identify possible solutions to problems EU 1.4 There are different processes and strategies for solving problems. Being able to apply these processes and strategies may increase the probability of developing a successful outcome. (developing multiple solutions to problems takes time, patience, and perseverance) K.CR.G.1 Standard: Identify the parts of the system and explain connections within that system EU 1.3 The development of critical thinking skills and dispositions is a life-long endeavor. (parts of a system are connected and interaction in positive and negative ways) K.CR.I.1 Standard - communicate complex idea to reach an intended audience EU 1.2 The decisions that we make impact others. It is important to consider the implications and consequences of personal actions. (sharing out ideas with others helps to show what we have learned and how our choices can make an impact)</p>	
Essential Questions:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EQ 1.2 How do I use different strategies to effectively generate solutions that solve problems? 	

Kindergarten at a Glance

How are living things linked to each other and the environment? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EQ 1.4 How do my decisions impact the world? What is a positive choice we can make to positively impact the environment?
MOGLO:
Assessed Standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use facts to support ideas, decisions, and opinions• Identify the parts of the system and explain connections within that system• Communicate complex idea to reach an intended audience Supported Standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With Guidance, Identify Possible Solutions to Problems• Collaboratively and Independently Identify Elements of Issues

Unit Know, Understand, and Do:
<p>Know: food chains, helpful bugs, the water cycle, how to recycle, how to reuse items, how to reduce the amount of trash they make, and how to keep our air, water, and land clean</p> <p>Understand: how students are connected to the environment; choices we make can affect the environment in a positive or negative way.</p> <p>Do: Explain how the choices students make can positively or negatively impact the environment through conducting many experiments and participating in hands-on projects. Students will pass on this information by creating an Ecology Festival Booth and presenting what they have learned.</p>