KINDERGARTEN SCIENCE

Course Overview

The performance expectations in kindergarten help students formulate answers to questions such as: “What happens if you push or pull an object harder? Where do animals live and why do they live there? What is the weather like today and how is it different from yesterday?” Kindergarten performance expectations include PS2, PS3, LS1, ESS2, ESS3, and ETS1 Disciplinary Core Ideas from the Next Generation Science Standards. In the kindergarten performance expectations, students are expected to demonstrate grade-appropriate proficiency in asking questions, developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, designing solutions, engaging in argument from evidence, and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information. Students are expected to use these practices to demonstrate understanding of the core ideas.

Unit	Estimated Class Time	Overview
Unit 1 Forces and Motion	14 weeks	Students will be able to independently use their learning to: Analyze and interpret data to conduct an investigation about how forces can impact motion. Students apply an understanding of the effects of different strengths or different directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object to analyze a design solution.
Unit 2 Earth and Earth's Systems	14 weeks	Students will be able to independently use their learning to analyze and interpret data to make weather predictions and describe how to prepare for and respond to severe weather conditions. Students are expected to develop understanding of patterns and variations in local weather and the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for, and respond to, severe weather.
Unit 3 Plants and Animals	14 weeks	Students will be able to independently use their learning to analyze and interpret information presented to communicate solutions that will help decrease the impact of living things on their environment. Students are also expected to develop understanding of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive and the relationship between their needs and where they live.

Content Continuum

K	Grade K Science
1	Grade 1 Science
2	Grade 2 Science

INSTRUCTIONAL / SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

1. Textbook: National Geographic *Exploring Science*
2. Supplemental readings and online resources to enhance understanding of course content and skills:
   - National Geographic Leveled Readers
3. All existing resources will be evaluated for alignment to new curriculum.

KEY FEATURES OF REVISION

- Real World Scenario based learning available in each PBA
- Student access to digital resources has expanded
- NJ requires climate change integration into all subjects

Differentiation strategies are included.

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