Curriculum Newsletter for Grade 6 Science

Mr. Bennett

Dear Parents,
This term, your children will get an introduction into electricity and biodiversity. Below is a chart that briefly outlines the main curriculum expectations that they will be taught and how they will be assessed. For each major project, students will be given a specific outline along with success criteria. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Unit 3: Electricity

Curriculum Expectation:	Teaching Strategy:	Assessment:
! Evaluate the impact of the use of electricity on both the way we live and the environment	! small group discussions to access prior knowledge ! individual research on current technologies ! whole group lessons	! students will research a method of electricity generation and evaluate the positive and negative effects on society
! Investigate the characteristics of static and current electricity and construct simple circuits	! build small circuits and figure out how they work ! use research skills to investigate the similarities and differences between static and current electricity	! students will explain how electricity moves ! students will construct different types of electrical circuits ! in-class assignments
! Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of electrical energy and its transformation into and from other forms of energy	! demonstration of how motors can transform electrical energy into rotational movement and how the reverse is also true ! investigative laboratories to observe the properties of electricity	! students will report on their measurements and observations from labs ! quizzes and tests ! students will discuss how energy is converted between different forms

Unit 4: Biodiversity

Curriculum Expectation:	Teaching Strategy:	Assessment:
! Assess human impacts on biodiversity and identify ways of preserving biodiversity	! small group discussions to access prior knowledge ! individual research on local ecosystems and the organisms in them ! whole group lessons	! students will report on how a local ecosystem has changed over time ! students will investigate how biodiversity can be preserved in Guelph
! Investigate the characteristics of living things and classify diverse organisms according to specific characteristics	! develop classification systems for identifying organisms ! investigate how animals survive in their environment ! guest presentation	! students will classify organisms by a system that they develop ! students will explain the similarities and differences between different types of organisms and how the are adapted to survive in their ecosystems
! Demonstrate an understanding of biodiversity, its contributions to the stability of natural systems and its benefits to humans	! research biodiversity in our area ! discuss how levels of biodiversity impact the health of the organisms ! identify food chains and webs in our area	! student made observations of organisms ! quizzes and tests