

## 3rd Grade - Science

## Science

The third-grade science curriculum is bursting with many fascinating topics that are first introduced in the K-2 scope and sequence, such as forces, animal habitats, and human body systems. It is our task, then, as teachers to expand upon the knowledge our students previously gained, aiming for a deeper and more complex understanding while simultaneously reinvigorating our students' sense of wonder and depth of inquiry for these topics. The course content in the K-2 grades is introductory and often has a more general scope. As the content spirals back through third grade, it becomes much more focused on cause and effect, patterns, and systems. It is also infused with rich and sophisticated scientific vocabulary. Building on their knowledge of the 5 senses and understanding of light and sound from earlier grades, students in third grade learn how our senses help us to move effectively in our environment. Third grade science instruction should also be focused on practicing the skills of observation, logical reasoning, organization, and clear communication. Students in third grade will begin to take class notes and be expected to communicate their ideas in class presentations, in explanatory reports, and by completing short answer questions on unit tests. Many lessons come from the Core Knowledge scope and sequence but there are several topics included to supplement the curriculum, creating a more cohesive and well-rounded course of study.

**Unit 1: Investigating Forces** 

Unit 2: Life Cycles, Traits, and Variations

**Unit 3: Habitats and Change** 

**Unit 4: Weather and Climate** 

Unit 5: The Human Body: Systems and How Our Eyes and Ears Work

Unit 6: Energy and Properties of Matter Light

Unit 7: Light and Soundn Unit 6:

**Thirteen Colonies**