

What Your Child Will Learn in Elementary School Science

The following chart identifies the units to be taught during each quarter. Due to the variation of materials and the configuration of teachers assigned to teach science, the order of units within a grading period may vary from teacher to teacher within a grade level at a school.

Fourth Grade

First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adaptations• Fossils	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changing Landforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy Conservation and Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflection and Refraction• Electromagnetic Spectrum and Waves• Space

Fossils

Students will recognize and explain that fossils provide evidence about the plants and animals that lived long ago and about the nature of the environment at that time and examine fossils to compare them to one another and to living organism according to their similarities and differences.

Adaptations

Students will explain that individuals of the same kind differ in their characteristics, and sometimes the differences give individuals an advantage in surviving and reproducing.

Changing Landforms

Students will learn how physical weathering and erosion changes the earth's surface. They will learn about the changes in the course of a river and design an engineering project related to what they have learned.

Energy Conservation

Students will recognize and explain how renewable and nonrenewable natural resources are used by humans to meet basic needs and that people depend on, change, and are affected by the environment. They will also identify and describe that human activities in a community are affected by environmental factors.

Electricity and Magnetism

Students will recognize and describe the effects of static electrical charges and investigate and provide evidence that electricity requires a closed loop in order to produce measurable effects.

Reflection and Refraction

Students will learn how light travels in a straight line until it is reflected or refracted and how it interacts with other materials.

Our Place in Space

Students will learn about the movement of celestial objects in our solar system and beyond. They will describe the courses of repeating patterns of the sun, planets and stars.