

Diocese of Allentown Science Curriculum
Grade 4 Scope and Sequence

Learning Standard	Ideas for Developing Investigations and Learning Experiences	Date Completed
Enduring Knowledge 1: Use the scientific method, scientific tools, and safe lab procedures to solve problems.		
<p>Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make purposeful observations using the appropriate senses. • Generate questions based on observations. • Identify strategies for gathering information (expert in field, books, observations, investigations, videos) • Conduct simple investigations. • Construct simple charts from data and observations. • Share ideas through purposeful conversation. • Communicate and present findings of observations (illustrations, models, writing). • Manipulate simple tools that aid in observation and data collection. • Make accurate measurements with appropriate units for the measurement tool. <p>A. The Scientific Method is the way that scientists learn and study the world around them. The steps include:</p>	<p>ACTIVITY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a science handbook including Scientific Method & Scientific Process Skills • Observe objects using the appropriate senses • Classify items • Make a chart with data • Have students and parents sign a Lab Safety Contract • Include lab safety rules in science handbook • Include scientific instruments and tools, and their uses, in science handbook <p>LAB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first lab should be a step by step practice using the Scientific Method of something they know (brushing teeth) • All labs should utilize the Scientific Method and Scientific Process Skills • Review safety rules at the beginning of every lab • Review instrument and tool name and use during every lab <p>INTERNET/SMART BOARD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video clips <p>VOCABULARY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypothesis: an educated guess • Procedure: the steps in an experiment • Experiment: a fair test designed to answer a question • Observations: noting and recording information • Conclusion: the result of outcome 	

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<p>1. Observe and ask a question</p> <p>2. Form a hypothesis</p> <p>3. Identify the procedure (materials and steps)</p> <p>4. Follow the procedure to conduct the experiment</p> <p>5. Tell what was learned from the experiment (conclusion)</p> <p>B. Scientists use Scientific Process Skills to solve problems.</p> <p>1. Observing</p> <p>2. Classifying</p> <p>3. Measuring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Length (inches, centimeters)• Mass (ounces, grams) <p>4. Communication</p> <p>5. Interdisciplinary Skills</p> <p>C. Lab Safety is a set of rules that scientists practice to safely learn and study the world around them. These rules include:</p> <p>1. I will follow directions</p> <p>2. I will listen carefully</p> <p>3. I will keep myself and others safe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Observing: ability to identify properties, structures, etc. through use of all senses• Classifying: ability to group, match, compare by commonality• Measuring: ability to find quantitative differences, to estimate, to calculate, etc. (standard & metric)• Communication: ability to verbally relate experiences, information and procedures with clarity• Wafting: waving a hand over a substance to draw a scent toward the nose• Scientist: a person who asks questions and tries different ways to answer them	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">4. I will clean my area after lab activities5. I am a responsible scientist6. Do not enter Science Lab without an adult7. Do not eat or drink in the lab8. Do not inhale; wafting permitted with teacher approval <p>D. Scientific Instruments and Tools help scientists observe, describe and record the world around them. Instruments and tools include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Ruler2. Pencil3. Balance4. Magnifying Lens5. Safety Goggles6. Flashlight7. Globe		
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Enduring Knowledge 2: <i>The solar system consists of planets and other bodies that orbit the Sun in predictable paths.</i>		
<p>A. Recognize that the sun is a star at the center of our solar system.</p> <p>B. Understand planetary movements are dynamic; orbiting in paths</p> <p>C. Identify names and characteristics of each of the planets in our solar system</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare similarities and differences between the sun and stars. • Identify similar star patterns or groups from night photographs of the same location at different times of the year. • Formulate a general description of the daily motion of the Sun across the sky based on shadow observations. Explain how shadows could be used to tell the time of day. • Demonstrate through modeling that motion is a change in position over a period of time. • Creating a model of the planets and their correct order from the sun. • Use scales to emphasize size dynamics <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar System-the Sun and all the objects that orbit around it. • Planet- large sphere in space that orbits a star. • Gravity– a force of attraction, or pull, between all objects. • Telescope- a device that collects light and makes distant objects appear closer and larger. • Comet- a chunk of ice, rock, and dust that orbits the Sun. • Asteroid- A chunk of rock or metal that orbits the Sun. • Meteor- a piece of rock, ice or metal that burns up in Earth’s atmosphere, causing a streak of light to appear in the sky. • Meteorite- a meteor that hits Earth’s surface. • Star- a hot sphere of gases in space that makes its own light. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 3: <i>The Earth has motional cycles as does Earth's moon.</i>		
<p>A. Distinguish between rotation and revolution</p> <p>B. Understand the seasons</p> <p>C. Understand basis of moon phases</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drawing or building and then explaining a model of the earth rotating on its axis in relation to the sun and moon (i.e., day and night). ● Connect these seasonal changes in sunlight to the tilt of Earth's axis with respect to the plane of its orbit around the Sun. ● Have students chart a lunar month and demonstrate their understanding of terms and phases. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Axis- a real or imaginary line that a spinning object turns around. ● Orbit- the path an object takes as it travels around another object. ● Rotation- the act of spinning around an axis. ● Revolution- one complete trip around an object in a circular or nearly circular path. ● Phase- a temporary state of being, often used to describe the change in the appearance of the Moon. ● Lunar Eclipse- a blocking of the moon's light when the moon passes into Earth's shadow; happens when the Earth is directly between the Sun and the Moon. ● Solar Eclipse-a blocking of the Sun's light that happens when Earth passes through the Moon's shadow; at that time the Moon is between Earth and the Sun. ● Crater- a hollow area or pit in the ground. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 4: <i>The Earth is old and scientists learn about the past history of living things by studying fossils.</i>		
<p>A. Explore Earth theories regarding origin and age</p> <p>B. Identify the crust, mantle and core.</p> <p>C. Define a fossil and understand conditions for fossil formation.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compare several theories relating to the origin of the Planet Earth• Discuss the composition and state of matter of each layer. Model the interactions between the layers of Earth.• Examine Fossils or imprints and use data gathered from observations to argue the origin (terrestrial or marine). <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crust-rock that makes up the Moon's and Earth's outermost layers.• Mantle- the layer of rock below the Earth's crust.• Core- the innermost layer of the Earth made of iron and nickel.• Fossil-any evidence of an organism that lived in the past.	

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Enduring Knowledge 5: <i>Features, processes, and changes occur in Earth's land and oceans.</i>		
<p>A. Introduce the theory of Pangaea and Plate Tectonics.</p> <p>B. Understand the differences between converging, diverging and transformational plate boundaries</p> <p>C. Understand earthquakes and volcanos as results of plate motion.</p> <p>D. Introduce other types of landforms and their formation.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present evidence to support arguments for the theory of plate motion. • Investigate geographic examples, including the Ring of Fire • Research recent occurrences and how scientists predict and measure Earthquakes and volcanos. • Determine if landforms were created by processes of erosion (e.g., wind, water, and/or ice) based on evidence in pictures, video, and/or maps. Use models created in classrooms. Locate areas that are being created (deposition) and destroyed (erosion) using maps and satellite images. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fault- a crack in Earth's crust along which movement has taken place. • Plateau- a high landform with a flat top • Fold- a bend in layers of rock • Volcano- a mountain that builds up around an opening in Earth's surface. • Mountain- a tall landform that rises to a peak. • Earthquake- a sudden shaking of the rock that makes up Earth's crust. • Seismic Wave- a vibration caused by an earthquake. • Seismograph- an instrument that detects and records earthquakes; shows seismic waves and jagged lines along a graph. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 6: <i>Earth materials reflect the processes that formed them.</i>		
<p>A. Rocks have properties of color, texture and hardness. Rocks can be classified by their physical properties.</p> <p>B. Rock is composed of different combinations of minerals that have formed under different conditions.</p> <p>C. Understand basis for crystal formation</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe and compare the properties of rocks. • Illustrate the rock cycle demonstrating how Igneous, Metamorphic and Sedimentary rocks are changed to create the cycle. • Distinguish physical properties of sedimentary, igneous, or metamorphic rocks and explain how one kind of rock could eventually become a different kind of rock. • Observe, identify and compare components of soils and rocks. • Create a model to represent how soil is formed. • Make and compare crystals and their properties. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weathering- the breaking down of rocks into smaller pieces. • Erosion- the weathering and removal of rock and soil. • Deposition- the dropping off of eroded soil and bits of rock. • Terminus- a downhill end of a glacier where glacial till and other debris are deposited. • Moraine- a large body of weathered rock deposited by the edge of a glacier. • Sedimentary Rock- a rock that forms when small bits of matter are pressed together in layers. • Metamorphic Rock- rock formed from another kind of rock under heat and pressure. • Igneous Rock- rock that forms when melted rock cools and hardens. • Rock Cycle- the process by which rocks continuously change from one type to another. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 7: <i>Earth materials provide resources for all living things but these resources are limited and should be conserved.</i>		
<p>A. Identify a variety of minerals</p> <p>B. Explore sources of minerals, including local ones, and commercial uses of several minerals.</p> <p>C. Identify natural and agricultural products people use.</p> <p>D. Know that different products and different ways of handling products have environmental and human impact.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce Moh’s scale, the streak test, cleavage, and understanding how colors are interpreted. ● Students can conduct independent research reports or presentations. Information can be pooled and used to build a study guide. ● Identify the natural resources used in the process of making various manufactured products. ● Distinguish between renewable and non-renewable sources. ● Identify and collaborate with local resources <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minerals- a natural, non-living, solid material found in rock. ● Color-a perception of light ● Luster- the ability for an object to be shiny ● Streak- the ability for a rock or mineral to be scratched. ● Hardness- the quality of condition for an object to be hard. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 8: <i>All things on Earth can be classified as non-living or living.</i>		
<p>A. Define life.</p> <p>B. Identify components of ecosystems that are living and non-living.</p> <p>C. Compare larger non-living and living things with smaller (microscopic) non-living and living things.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and categorize the basic needs of living organisms as they relate to the environment. • Practice looking at different ecosystems and identifying abiotic (climate) and biotic factors (predator and prey) in each. • Introduce varying types of microscopic life and conditions such as bacteria. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biotic- a living part of an ecosystem • Abiotic- a non-living part of an ecosystem • Ecosystem- the living and non-living things in an ecosystem and all of their interactions. • Population- all members of a species that live in an ecosystem • Community- all the populations in an ecosystem • Food Chain- energy that passes from one organism to another • Predator- an organism that hunts for food • Prey- an organism hunted by others for food • Producer- organisms that make their own food using energy and sunlight • Consumer- organisms who cannot make their own food • Decomposers- organisms that break down waste and the remains of other organisms into simpler substances • Carnivore- animal that eats other animals • Omnivore- animal that eats plants and animals • Herbivore- animal that eats plants 	

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Enduring Knowledge 9: <i>Living things are made of cells.</i>		
<p>A. Describe how larger living things are made up of systems that are made up of organs; made up of tissues; made up of cells.</p> <p>B. Understand that cells are the basic working component of all living things.</p> <p>C. Recognize parts and functions of a basic animal cell including DNA, nucleus, cytoplasm, and cell membrane.</p> <p>D. Introduce a compound light microscope and examine a cell.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce magnification and the basic parts and functions of the compound light microscope. • Have students make cell models. • Compare plants and animal cells; introduce mitochondria in animal cells and chloroplasts in plant cells. • Use any variety of cell types from human and animal to plants and microscopic organisms. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell- the smallest living unit of matter. • Oxygen- a gas found in the air and water that plants and animals need to live. • Organism- a living thing that that carries out basic functions on its own. • Tissues- a group of similar cells that that work together to carry out a job. • Organ- a group of tissues that work together to carry out a job. • Organ System- a group of organs that work together to carry out a job. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 10: <i>Living things can be classified into two domains or six kingdoms.</i>		
<p>A. Recognize a need to classify objects.</p> <p>B. Introduce a classification system that is based on two domains or six kingdoms.</p> <p>C. Compare and contrast invertebrates and vertebrates.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have student's group screws, nails, etc....into characteristic groups.• Conduct activities or projects that allow for individual or group explorations of different phyla invertebrates and vertebrates. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traits- a characteristic of a living thing.• Kingdom- the largest group into which an organism can be classified.• Classification- grouping organisms by their traits• Microorganism- an organism that cannot be seen with the naked eye.	

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Enduring Knowledge 11: <i>Living things undergo changes throughout their life cycle.</i>		
<p>A. Review the human life cycle.</p> <p>B. Recognize life cycle stages of other living things.</p> <p>C. Introduce that some creatures can be produced by one parent whereas for others, like humans, it takes two parents.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include infancy, childhood, adolescence and adulthood. • Determine the characteristic changes that occur during the life cycle of plants and animals by examining a variety of species, and distinguish between growth and development. • Mealworms can be used for the beetle, caterpillars for butterflies, etc...can discuss incomplete and complete metamorphosis • Show examples of cells arising from cells <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth- the process of changing in physical size • Development- a changing process that occurs over time where new adaptations aid in survival. • Reproduction- the process of passing down genetic material to keep a species alive. • Metamorphosis- a series of separate body forms during an animals development • Heredity- the passing of traits from parent to offspring. • Endoskeleton- an internal support system. • Exoskeleton- an external support system. • Inherited Behavior- behaviors that are natural • Learned Behaviors- behaviors that are learned 	

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Enduring Knowledge 12: <i>Plants and animals have structures for digestion, respiration, waste disposal, and transport of materials.</i>		
<p>A. Recognize that every organism needs energy derived from food.</p> <p>B. Compare heterotrophs and autotrophs.</p> <p>C. Recognize structures for the digestive system in humans.</p> <p>D. Recognize structures for a respiratory system in humans.</p> <p>E. Recognize structures for the human circulatory system.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a list of examples for both groups • Create a human body project illustrating the systems and their parts. • Create a human body project illustrating the systems and their parts. • Create a human body project illustrating the systems and their parts. <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skeletal System- system of the body, made from bones, that supports the body. • Muscular System- system of the body that controls the muscles • Nervous System- system of the body that controls the senses and other systems. • Respiratory System- system of the body that exchanges gasses • Circulatory System- system of the body that pumps blood through the body • Excretory System- system of the body that eliminates waste • Digestive System- system of the body that breaks down food • Heterotrophs- an organism that eats other living organisms for nutrition • Autotrophs- an organism that makes its own food 	

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Enduring Knowledge 13: <i>Perceiving and responding to information about the environment is critical to the survival of organisms.</i>		
A. Understand what a reflex is; stimulus and response B. Recognize structures of the human nervous system.	ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brainstorm human/ animal reflexes important for survival• Create a human body project illustrating the systems and their parts. VOCABULARY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflex- a muscle response to a stimulus• Stimulus- senses that the body receives and responds to.• Response- the reaction to a stimulus.	

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Enduring Knowledge 14: <i>Plants carry out reproduction in a variety of ways.</i>		
<p>A. Plants can reproduce through the production of seed. Some seed is hidden within fruit and some are exposed as in cones.</p> <p>B. Seeds are built for dispersal.</p> <p>C. Discuss basic plant life cycles.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate illustrations of various plants and their seeds • Demonstrate how certain seeds travel • Discover and observe by planting sunflower seeds <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photosynthesis- chemical process that converts light energy into sugars • Chlorophyll- pigment in plants that give it a green color and collect energy • Root- part of the plant that holds it into the ground and takes in water and minerals • Spore- a cell in a seeded plant that can grow into a new plant. • Stem- part of the plant that holds the plant up and carries food, water, and other minerals to and from the plants leaves. • Stomata- pores on the bottom of leaves that open and close to exchange gases. • Pollination- the transfer of a flower’s pollen from anther to pistil. • Plant Life Cycle- the complete change from seed to flowering plant. • Transpiration- the release of water vapor through the stomata of a plant. 	

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Enduring Knowledge 15: <i>Characteristics in structure and behavior may improve an organism's chance of survival.</i>		
<p>A. Traits are characteristics that are inherited through DNA from parent to offspring.</p> <p>B. Changes in DNA, called mutations, can lead to changes in traits.</p> <p>C. Know mutations can be bad for an organism.</p> <p>D. Know mutations can be good for an organism.</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have students discuss certain traits that can be inherited from their parents • Explore how certain species have changed over time through evolution (ex: changes in color coats) • Have students investigate how certain mutations have negatively affected an organism. • Discuss animals camouflaging in their environment <p>VOCABULARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation- a change that helps an organism survive • Hibernate- a period of sleep or rest through a winter • Camouflage- an adaptation where animals blend in with their surroundings • Mimicry- an adaptation where animals look like other organisms to aid in survival • Extinct- when the last of a species dies. 	