Bluff Dale ISD

First Grade Science with Mrs. Barber

Syllabus with Scope & Sequence

2025-2026

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Conference Period: 11:30-12:00

In first grade science, students begin to explore the natural world around them through observation, inquiry, and hands-on investigation. Guided by the **Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)**, our science curriculum helps build curiosity and foundational understanding in life science, physical science, earth science, and environmental awareness. Students will use simple tools, record observations, and learn how science connects to their everyday lives.

Key Areas of Focus:

Scientific Investigation and Reasoning

- Ask questions, make predictions, and explore answers through hands-on learning.
- Use tools like hand lenses, thermometers, and rulers.
- Collect, record, and discuss data through drawings, charts, and verbal explanations.

Physical Science

- Explore properties of matter: solid, liquid, gas.
- Observe and describe the ways objects move (push/pull, straight/zigzag/round paths).
- Explore forms of energy: heat, light, and sound.

Earth and Space

- Observe and record patterns of seasons and weather.
- Identify natural resources like water, soil, and rocks.

- Recognize the characteristics of day and night.

Life Science

- Identify parts of plants and their functions.
- Understand the basic needs of living things (food, water, shelter, air).
- Explore animal characteristics, behaviors, and life cycles.

Environmental Awareness

- Discuss how human actions impact the environment.
- Learn ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- Recognize safe and unsafe practices in science exploration.

What Parents Can Do to Support Learning:

- Go on nature walks and talk about what you see and hear.
- Let your child help measure ingredients or observe changes while cooking.
- Watch the moon and weather patterns together and talk about what changes.
- Visit zoos, farms, botanical gardens, or science museums when possible.
- Encourage questions and help look up answers together when they're curious.

Why This is Important:

Science fosters a sense of wonder and critical thinking. At this age, kids naturally ask "why" and "how." By encouraging those questions through structured observation and exploration, we're helping them form the foundation for understanding the world and building problem-solving and investigation skills for life.

Units of Study:

Unit 1: Scientific Practices and Tools

- Asking questions and forming predictions
- Using hand lenses, rulers, and balances
- Recording observations with pictures and simple charts

Unit 2: Properties of Matter

- Describing objects by size, shape, texture, and color
- Exploring states of matter: solid, liquid, gas
- Observing how objects can change (e.g., melting, folding)

Unit 3: Force, Motion, and Energy

- Pushes and pulls and how they affect motion
- Exploring magnets and their properties
- Introduction to light, sound, and heat energy

Unit 4: Patterns in the Sky and Weather

- Observing the sun, moon, and stars
- Recognizing day and night cycles
- Exploring types of weather and seasonal changes

Unit 5: Earth's Resources

- Identifying soil, rocks, water, and air
- Exploring uses of natural resources

- Understanding conservation and recycling

Unit 6: Plants and Animals

- Identifying plant parts and functions (roots, stem, leaves, flowers)
- Exploring the needs of plants and animals
- Learning about animal characteristics and life cycles

Unit 7: Habitats and Environment

- Exploring where animals live and how they survive
- Learning how plants and animals adapt to their environments
- Discussing how people impact nature (positive and negative)