Verona Public School District Curriculum Overview

3rd Grade Science



Supervisor: Glen Stevenson

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Verona Public Schools 121 Fairview Ave., Verona, NJ 07044 www.veronaschools.org

Verona Public Schools Mission Statement:

The mission of the Verona Public Schools, the center of an engaged and supportive community, is to empower students to achieve their potential as active learners and productive citizens through rigorous curricula and meaningful, enriching experiences.

Course Description:

The Motion and Design unit combines the physics of forces and motion with technological design. Students use plastic construction materials, weights, rubber bands, and propellers to design and build vehicles, then test how those vehicles respond to different forces of motion, like pushes, pulls, or rubber band energy. They explore, through experiments and multiple trials, how forces like friction, gravity, and air resistance work against motion to slow their vehicles down. Students must apply the concepts they learn to a design challenge, designing a vehicle that can perform to certain specifications, but also meets certain "cost" requirements. Collaboratively, student teams must design a vehicle, calculate the cost, test it, and refine their design. This unit develops skills in recording design through drawing, making accurate measurements, completing and analyzing data tables, making and testing predictions, and communicating results and experimental data.

Students plant their own seeds to begin an eight-week inquiry into the life cycle of a simple plant, the Brassica rapa, in Plant Growth and Development. Using

plants that complete their life cycle in 35 days, students are able to watch germination and maturation while learning about the specific parts of a plant and the function each serves. Because they care or their own seedlings, students learn that plants need light, soil, nutrients from soil, and water to survive. In addition, students use dried bees to simulate the pollination process to understand the interdependence of bees and flowers. These activities deepen their understanding of the characteristics of living organisms and their relationship with, and dependence on the environment in general. Throughout this unit, students are asked to use their observation and recording skills, complete and analyze data tables, use simple tools, draw diagrams, and apply scientific vocabulary.

Prerequisite(s):

Grade 2 Science



Verona Elementary Schools

Standard 8: Technology Standards			
8.1: Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage,	8.2: Technology Education, Engineering, Design, and Computational Thinking -		
evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and	Programming: All students will develop an understanding of the nature and impact of technology,		
collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.	engineering, technological design, computational thinking and the designed world as they relate to the		
	individual, global society, and the environment.		
A. Technology Operations and Concepts	A. The Nature of Technology: Creativity and Innovation		
B. Creativity and Innovation	X B. Technology and Society		
X C. Communication and Collaboration	X C. Design		
D. Digital Citizenship	D. Abilities for a Technological World		
X E. Research and Information Fluency	E. Computational Thinking: Programming		
X F. Critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making			

SEL Competencies and Career Ready Practices				
Social and Emotional Learning Core Competencies: These competencies are	Career Ready Practices: These practices outline the skills that all individua	als need to have		
identified as five interrelated sets of cognitive, affective, and behavioral	to truly be adaptable, reflective, and proactive in life and careers. These are researched			
capabilities	practices that are essential to career readiness.			
Self-awareness: The ability to accurately recognize one's emotions and thoughts and	CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.			
their influence on behavior. This includes accurately assessing one's strengths and	CRP9. Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.			
limitations and possessing a well-grounded sense of confidence and optimism.	CRP10. Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.			
Self-management: The ability to regulate one's emotions, thoughts, and behaviors	CRP3. Attend to personal health and financial well-being.			
effectively in different situations. This includes managing stress, controlling	CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.			
impulses, motivating oneself, and setting and working toward achieving personal	K CRP8. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in sc	lving them.		
and academic goals.	CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.			
Social awareness: The ability to take the perspective of and empathize with others from	CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.			
diverse backgrounds and cultures, to understand social and ethical norms for	CRP9. Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.			
behavior, and to recognize family, school, and community resources and supports.				
Relationship skills: The ability to establish and maintain healthy and rewarding	CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.			
relationships with diverse individuals and groups. This includes communicating	CRP9. Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.			
clearly, listening actively, cooperating, resisting inappropriate social pressure,	CRP12. Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.			
negotiating conflict constructively, and seeking and offering help when needed.				
Responsible decision making: The ability to make constructive and respectful choices	CRP5. Consider the environmental, social, and economic impact of decisions	S.		
about personal behavior and social interactions based on consideration of ethical	CRP7. Employ valid and reliable research strategies.			
standards, safety concerns, social norms, the realistic evaluation of consequences	CRP8. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in sc	lving them.		
of various actions, and the well-being of self and others.	CRP9. Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.			

Standard 9: 21 st Century Life and Careers				
9.1: Personal Financial Literacy: This standard outlines the important fiscal knowledge, habits, and skills that must be mastered in order for students to make informed decisions about personal finance. Financial literacy is an integral component of a student's college and career readiness, enabling students to achieve fulfilling, financially-secure, and successful careers.	9.2: Career Awareness, Exploration & Preparation: This standard outlines the importance of being knowledgeable about one's interests and talents, and being well informed about postsecondary and career options, career planning, and career requirements.	9.3: Career and Technical Education: This standard outlines what students should know and be able to do upon completion of a CTE Program of Study.		
 X A. Income and Careers B. Money Management C. Credit and Debt Management D. Planning, Saving, and Investing E. Becoming a Critical Consumer F. Civic Financial Responsibility G. Insuring and Protecting 	 X A. Career Awareness (K-4) B. Career Exploration (5-8) C. Career Preparation (9-12) 	 A. Agriculture, Food & Natural Res. B. Architecture & Construction C. Arts, A/V Technology & Comm. D. Business Management & Admin. E. Education & Training F. Finance G. Government & Public Admin. H. Health Science I. Hospital & Tourism J. Human Services K. Information Technology L. Law, Public, Safety, Corrections & Security M. Marketing X O. Science, Technology, Engineering & Math P. Transportation, Distribution & Log. 		

Course Materials			
Core Instructional Materials : These are the board adopted and approved materials to support the curriculum, instruction, and assessment of this course.	Differentiated Resources : These are teacher and department found materials, and also approved support materials that facilitate differentiation of curriculum, instruction, and assessment of this course.		
 STC Kits: Motion and Design Plant Growth and Development 	 Trade books 		



3rd Grade Science

Unit Title / Topic: Motion and Design		Unit Duration:		
Stage 1: Desired Results				
Established Goals: 3-PS2-1. Plan and conduct an investigation to provide evidence of the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object. [Clarification Statement: Examples could include an unbalanced force on one side of a ball can make it start moving; and, balanced forces pushing on a box from both sides will not produce any motion at all.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one variable at a time: number, size, or direction of forces. Assessment does not include quantitative force size, only qualitative and relative. Assessment is limited to gravity being addressed as a force that pulls objects down.] 3-PS2-2. Make observations and/or measurements of an object's motion to provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion. [Clarification Statement: Examples of motion with a predictable pattern could include a child swinging in a swing, a ball rolling back and forth in a bowl, and two children on a see-saw.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include technical terms such as period and frequency.]				
Science and Engineering Practices Planning and Carrying Out Investigations • Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence, using fair tests in which variables are controlled and the number of trials considered. (3-PS2-1) • Make observations and/or measurements to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence for an explanation of a phenomenon or test a design solution. (3-PS2-2) 	 Disciplinary Core Ideas PS2.A: Forces and Motion Each force acts on one particular object and has both strength and a direction. An object at rest typically has multiple forces acting on it, but they add to give zero net force on the object. Forces that do not sum to zero can cause changes in the object's speed or direction of motion. (Boundary: Qualitative and conceptual, but not quantitative addition of forces are used at this level.) (3-PS2-1) The patterns of an object's motion in various situations can be observed and measured; when that past motion exhibits a regular pattern, future motion can be predicted from it. (Boundary: Technical terms, such as magnitude, velocity, momentum, and vector quantity, are not introduced at this level, but the concept that some quantities need both size and direction to be described is developed.) (3-PS2-2) 	Crosscutting Concepts Patterns • Patterns of change can be used to make predictions. (3-PS2-2) Cause and Effect • Cause and effect relationships are routinely identified. (3-PS2-1)		
Common Core State Standards Connections: ELA/Literacy – RI.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers. (3-PS2-1) W.3.7 Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic. (3-PS2-1),(3-PS2-2) W.3.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories. (3-PS2-1),(3-PS2-2) Mathematics – MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (3-PS2-1) 3.MD.A.2 Measure and estimate liquid volumes and masses of objects using standard units of grams (g), kilograms (kg), and liters (I). Add, subtract, multiply, or divide to solve one-step word problems involving masses or volumes that are given in the same units, e.g., by using drawings (such as a beaker with a measurement scale) to represent the problem. (3-PS2-1) Transfer Goal: Students will be able to independently use their learning choose a design challenge and engage in the engineering design process to meet the challenge.				
 Students will understand that: The success of technological products depends on the scientifi Successful vehicle design requires an understanding of energy cost considerations. Models may be used to test and adapt the variables and comp 	ic characteristics of their design and their value in application. y, force, and friction, as well as of the properties of materials and ponents that affect the efficiency of a design.	 Essential Questions: How can the engineering design process make for better solutions or products? How do forces act on objects to put them in motion, or make them stop moving? How can I make fair tests? 		
 Students will know: The products of technological design must meet certain specifications, which are set forth in technical drawings. The position and motion of an object may be changed by a force, such as pushing or pulling. The forces acting on a vehicle include different forms of energy that act as driving forces and resisting forces. Technological designs and products may be evaluated in terms of their cost, as well as their scientific and technological efficiency. vehicle, motion, design, requirement, three-view drawing, technical drawing, blueprint force, unbalanced force, friction, falling weight system, mean, median, mode, load, line plot, load energy, motion energy, kinetic energy, stored energy, potential energy, stored energy, friction, hub, axle, sail, hypothesize, air resistance, drag, aerodynamic, propeller, potential energy, friction, surface, clockwise, counterclockwise, action, reaction, angle, cost-effective, trade-offs, performance, standards engineer, aerospace engineer, computer scientist, mechanical engineer, electrical engineer, budget, aerodynamic, cost effective, recursive testing, engineer, design and testing, cost 		 Students will be able to: Build a vehicle according to design specifications. Make technical drawings. Conduct an investigation about applied forces and resulting motion. Conduct an investigation on the effect of load on motion. Conduct an investigation to evaluate different energy sources to drive their vehicles. Conduct an investigation to evaluate the effect of variable amounts of energy on the motion of the vehicle. Analyze data to determine how their design variable reduce or increase the force of friction in their vehicles. Construct an explanation for the effect of air resistance on their vehicle. Use evidence to compare the designs of propeller driven vehicles with axle-driven vehicles. 		

- Perform a cost analysis and modify vehicle design to reduce cost.
- Plan and carry out fair tests in which variables are controlled and failure points are considered to identify aspects of a model or prototype that can be improved.

Stage 2: Acceptable Evidence

Transfer Task -

Motion and Design Design challenges Students will plan, build, refine and present their design challenge solutions.



3rd Grade Science

Unit Title / Topic: Plant Growth and Develop	oment	Unit Duration: 60 da	ys
	Stage 1: Des	ired Results	
Established Goals: 2-LS2-1. Plan and conduct an investigation to determine if pl 2-LS2-2. Develop a simple model that mimics the function of 2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compar variety of different habitats.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment 3-LS1-1. Develop models to describe that organisms have ur Changes organisms go through during their life form a pattern.] [<i>I</i> of human reproduction.] 3-LS3-1. Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that organisms. [Clarification Statement: Patterns are the similarities humans.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include g 3-LS3-2. Use evidence to support the explanation that traits of normally tall plants grown with insufficient water are stunted; and	ants need sunlight and water to an animal in dispersing seeds of re the diversity of life in different t does not include specific animal nique and diverse life cycles but Assessment Boundary: Assessme plants and animals have traits i and differences in traits shared be genetic mechanisms of inheritance can be influenced by the environ , a pet dog that is given too much	grow. [Assessment Boundary: or pollinating plants.* t habitats. [Clarification Statem and plant names in specific hab all have in common birth, gro nt of plant life cycles is limited to nherited from parents and that etween offspring and their parent and prediction of traits. Assess inment. [Clarification Statement: food and little exercise may bec	Assessment is limited to testing one variable at a time.] ent: Emphasis is on the diversity of living things in each of a itats.] owth, reproduction, and death. [Clarification Statement: o those of flowering plants. Assessment does not include details at variation of these traits exists in a group of similar its, or among siblings. Emphasis is on organisms other than sment is limited to non-human examples.] Examples of the environment affecting a trait could include some overweight.]
Science and Engineering Practices Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions • Use materials to design a device that solves a specific problem or a solution to a specific problem. (1-LS1-1) Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information • Read grade-appropriate texts and use media to obtain scientific information to determine patterns in the natural world. (1-LS1-2) Planning and Carrying Out Investigations • Make observations (firsthand or from media) to collect data which can be used to make comparisons. (2-LS4-1) Developing and Using Models • Develop models to describe phenomena. (3-LS1-1) 	 Disciplinary Core Ideas LS1.A: Structure and Function All organisms have external parts. Different animals use their body parts in different ways to see, hear, grasp objects, protect themselves, move from place to place, and seek, find, and take in food, water and air. Plants also have different parts (roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits) that help them survive and grow. (1-LS1-1) LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms Adult plants and animals can have young. In many kinds of animals, parents and the offspring themselves engage in behaviors that help the offspring to survive. (1-LS1-2) Reproduction is essential to the continued existence of every kind of organism. Plants and animals have unique and diverse life cycles. (3-LS1-1) LS1.D: Information Processing Animals have body parts that capture and convey different kinds of information needed for growth and survival. Animals respond to these inputs with behaviors that help them survive. Plants also respond to some external inputs. (1-LS1-1) LS3.A: Inheritance of Traits Many characteristics of organisms are inherited from their parents. (3-LS3-1) LS3.B: Variation of Traits Different organisms vary in how they look and function because they have different inherited information. (3-LS3-1) The environment als affects the traits that an organism develops. (3-LS3-2) LS1.B: Station of Traits There are many different kinds of iving things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water. (2-LS4-1) 		Crosscutting Concepts Eause and Effect • Events have causes that generate observable patterns. (2-LS2-1) • Cause and effect relationships are routinely identified and used to explain change. (3-LS3-2) Structure and Function • The shape and stability of structures of natural and designed objects are related to their function(s). (2-LS2-2) Patterns • Patterns of change can be used to make predictions. (3-LS1-1) • Similarities and differences in patterns can be used to sort and classify natural phenomena. (3-LS3-1)
Common Core State Standards Connections: ELALiteracy - W2.7 Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations). (2-LS2-1), (2-LS4-1) W2.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question. (2-LS2-1), (2-LS4-1) SL .2.5 Create audio recordings of stories or poems; add drawings or other visual displays to stories or recounts of experiences when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings. (2-LS2-2) RI.3.7 Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur). (3-LS1-1) SL .3.5 Create engaging audio recordings of stories or poems that demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace; add visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details. (3-LS1-1) Mathematics - MP 2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (2-LS2-1), (2-LS4-1) MP 5-Use appropriate tool strategically. (2-LS2-1) 2.MD.D.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems. (2-LS2-2), (2-LS4-1) 3.NBT Number and Operations in Base Ten (3-LS1-1) 3.NF Number and Operations—Fractions (3-LS1-1) Students will be able to independently use their learning to model the interrelationship of plants and bees.			
 Students will understand that: Plants can grow and develop only in environments in which their needs are met. Plants and other organisms are part of an organized system that regulates their life cycles and their interactions with the environment. To move through their life cycle, plants need light, water, and nutrients from the soil. To reproduce, plants must be pollinated. Models can be used to identify the structures, functions, and behaviors of living organisms. Students will know: Organisms go through distinct stages as part of a process known as the life cycle. Living things are interdependent; for example, plants depend on bees for pollination. Records, notes, and graphs help people understand how plants move through the life cycle and what factors affect their growth and development. 		 Essential Questions: What is mutualism? How are plants and bees mutualistically related? How can the life cycle of a plant be modeled? Students will be able to: Conduct an investigation of bean seeds. Conduct an investigation of the life cycle of <i>Brassica rapa</i> Record, represent data in graphs, and analyze data about growth of <i>Brassica rapa</i> Conduct an investigation of the seed productivity of <i>Brassica rapa</i> 	
seed, texture, odor, predictions, observations, magnify, embryo, cotyledon, Brassica seeds		 Conduct an investigation of the structure bees Conduct an investigation of pollination. 	

(Wisconsin Fast Plants[™]), forceps, fertilizer pellets, quad, transplant, transit, class plots, centimeter, monitor, measurement, comparison, life cycle, cotyledon, embryonic, seedling data, analyze, growth spurt, honey stomach, honey bees, pollination, fertilization, hives, interdependent, dependent queen, abdomen, worker, antenna, drone, colony, pollination, pollen, thorax petal, stigma, structure, anther, pistil, cross-pollination, plant reproduction, fertilization, stamen , pistil , flowers, nectar, pollen, pods, mature, life cycle petals, sepals, pistil, stem, anthers, stigma, leaves antenna, stinger, simple eyes, legs, compound eyes, pollen baskets, tongues, bar graph, axis, unit of measurement, interpretation, application harvest, thresh, profit, loss

• Construct models of *Brassica rapa* and of a bee that clearly show the ways in which they interact in a mutually beneficial relationship.

Stage 2: Acceptable Evidence

Transfer Task -

Student models and presentation.

Research and presentation of another mutualistic relationship.