

3rd Grade Science Units -

High Priority

Parts identified as high priority are seen as important to teach. These units either strongly tie into the science standards at this particular grade level or build crucial vocabulary or understanding. These lessons should be taught.

Medium Priority

Parts identified as medium priority are important to teach, but parts could be modified if time is an issue. These parts of the investigation might have important pieces that connect with other parts or reading that helps to build understanding.

Low Priority

Parts identified as low priority are able to be skipped, while students won't be missing out on important standards or content. If time permits, these are the "fun" activities and build on the content being taught, but aren't crucial.

Water and Climate

In this unit, there are a lot of activities that are important for basic exposure to science for 3rd graders. Students spend a significant amount of the unit learning about water and water properties. Students explore properties of water when temperature and surface area change.

In this kit, there are many Science and Engineering Processes (SEP's) that students explore that are important to the development of students as scientists. (*Asking Questions, Planning and Carrying out Investigations, Analyzing and Interpreting Data, Constructing Explanations, Engaging in Argument from Evidence, and Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information*) Students also use the *Crosscutting Concepts such as Patterns, Cause and Effect and Stability and Change*.

*** If time is limited, the entire Investigation 5 could be skipped as all engineering standards are strongly met in other Investigations in the kit.*

Motion and Matter

In this unit, there are a lot of activities that are important for the basic exposure to science for 3rd graders. Students explore the concepts of magnetism and gravity affect forces of objects. They learn how to engineer simple machines for a desired task by modifying parts of their model based on multiple trials.

In this kit, there are many Science and Engineering Processes (SEP's) that students explore that are important to the development of students as scientists. (*Planning and Carrying out Investigations, Analyzing and Interpreting Data, Asking Questions, Constructing Explanations*) Students also use the *Crosscutting Concepts such as Stability and Change and Cause and Effect* as their scientific lens.

*** If time is limited, the entire Investigation 4 could be skipped as it doesn't necessarily fit with standards at 3rd grade.*