



Snapshot of a Kindergarten Student: Science

The foundation for science literacy begins in kindergarten with a hands-on approach. Through inquiry-based exploration, students learn content in the earth, life, and physical sciences as part of Gwinnett County Public Schools' Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum for science. Students also are introduced to scientific strategies for making observations, collecting and analyzing data, making measurements, and describing the world around them.

Students entering Kindergarten should be able to:

- Use their senses to observe, classify and learn about their environment
- Record observations through drawing or dictating
- Formulate a hypothesis related to scientific properties
- Describe properties of water
- Explore and describe properties of rocks, soil and mud
- Make simple observations related to seasons
- Compare day and night
- Use appropriate vocabulary to describe the climate and changes in weather
- Describe the basic needs and life cycles of living things
- Discriminate between living and non-living things
- Identify and describe the function of many body parts
- Explore and describe the position and movement of objects
- Investigate and describe the different types or speeds of motion
- Describe materials by their physical properties and states of matter
- Use classroom objects to function as simple machines
- Understand that people have an impact on their environment

Home Support:

- Welcome and encourage your child's questions and praise their curiosity for the world around them
- Encourage your child to use their senses to explore their environment
- Ask your child questions about what they see, hear, smell, taste and touch
- Ask your child to describe the world around them in various settings
- Ask your child to predict what will happen next when reading a story
- Use every day events such as cooking to discuss changes in states of matter and properties of water
- Use routine activities to talk about patterns, such as what is in the sky during the day and night
- Talk with your child about living and non-living things
- Read non-fiction books with your child
- Play games that involve sorting and moving objects
- Have your child help with recycling at home