

Fifth Grade Science Curriculum

Our science curriculum closely follows the national Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). We use the Seeds of Science/Roots of Reading science literacy materials with hands-on projects and experiments. Units of study for grade five include planets and moons, matter, energy transfer within ecosystems, and Earth's hydrosphere. Science is not an isolated discipline. Students practice data collecting, graphing, measurement, and many mathematical calculations through the units. They write, perform, and video record commercial advertisements for space travel. They author graphic novels about the journey of a water drop during the water unit. They make interactive food webs using the online presentation platform Prezi. STEM challenges are given weekly. One of their long-term STEM projects involves designing a moon lander to drop off the school roof. Writing code with our robots, Ozobot and Sphero, introduces students to the basics of computer programming. Students participate in a school science fair in the spring.