

**Science**  
**Instructional Focus**  
**Third Grade**

**Field and Laboratory Investigations: Environmentally Appropriate and Ethical (1 A,B)**

- Demonstrate safe practices during field and laboratory investigations
- Use and conserve resources and dispose or recycle materials

**Scientific Inquiry: Field and Laboratory (2 A - E)**

- Plan and implement descriptive investigations-ask well defined questions, formulate hypotheses, select and use equipment and technology
- Collect information-observe and measure
- Analyze and interpret information to construct explanations from direct and indirect evidence
- Communicate valid conclusions
- Construct graphs, tables, maps, charts to organize, examine, evaluate information

**Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making (3 A - E)**

- Analyze, review, critique scientific explanations, hypotheses, theories as to strengths and weaknesses
- Draw inferences on promotional materials for products and services
- Represent natural world using models, identify limitations of models
- Evaluate research on scientific thought, society, environment
- Connect science concepts with history of science and contributions of scientists

**Tools (4 A, B)**

- Collect and analyze information using tools
- Demonstrate repeated investigations increase reliability of results

**Forces Cause Change (6 A, B)**

- Measure and record changes in position, direction of motion of objects after a push or pull
- Recognize that the surface of Earth can be changed by forces, identify forces

**Physical Properties of Substances (7 A, B)**

- Gather information-temperature, magnetism, hardness, and mass
- Identify matter-liquids, solids, gases

**Systems Exist in the World (5 A, B)**

- Observe and identify simple systems
- Observe simple systems and describe role of parts

**Living Organisms' Needs- Food, Water, Light, Air, Waste Disposal, Environment (8 A -D)**

- Observe and describe habitats within ecosystems
- Observe and identify organisms with similar needs that compete for resources
- Describe environmental changes which cause organisms to thrive, become ill, or perish
- Describe how organisms modify environment to meet their needs

**Likeness Between offspring and Parents (10 A, B)**

- Identify inherited traits in plants
- Identify inherited traits in animals

**Adaptations Increase Survival of Species (9 A, B)**

- Observe and identify characteristics that allow survival
- Analyze adaptive characteristics

**Natural World: Earth Materials and Objects in the Sky (11 A - D)**

- Identify and describe importance of earth materials, classify as renewable, nonrenewable, inexhaustible
- Identify and record properties of soils
- Identify planets in solar system and positions
- Describe characteristics of Sun