

AMHERST PUBLIC AND PELHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS – CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

SUBJECT: SCIENCE

GRADE: 4

Units	Enduring Understandings	Skills
ELECTRIC CIRCUITS	<p>A complete circuit is required for electricity to flow.</p> <p>Electricity will flow through some materials and not through other materials.</p>	<p>Demonstrate awareness of safety and appropriate behavior</p> <p>Work in cooperative teams.</p> <p>Ask questions, make meaningful predictions and develop answers through hands-on investigations.</p> <p>Collect data: observe, count, measure, time, and weigh.</p>
STORIES IN STONE	<p>Rock is made up of minerals.</p> <p>Rocks are classified into three basic types (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic) based on how they are formed.</p> <p>Rocks eventually re-form into other rock of the same or different type through a process called the rock cycle.</p>	<p>Use sketches, labeled diagrams, and numeric data to record thoughts and observations.</p> <p>Organize and interpret information on charts, graphs or line plots.</p> <p>Analyze data, draw conclusions and explain results in written form.</p> <p>Recognize the need to support conclusions with scientific evidence.</p>
TREES AND PLANTS	<p>Trees and plants are sorted into groups based on similarities, such as the shape of their leaves.</p> <p>Through photosynthesis, plants use the sun’s energy to turn carbon dioxide and water into food and oxygen.</p> <p>Plants are adapted to survive in their specific environments.</p>	<p>Create and interpret diagrams and models.</p> <p>Sort items into groups with shared properties.</p> <p>Use a dichotomous key.</p> <p>Tools: stop watch, metric ruler, hand lens, microscope, thermometer, streak plate, mineral scratch tools, balance scales, circuit tester.</p>