

AMHERST PUBLIC AND PELHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS – CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

SUBJECT: SCIENCE

GRADE: 3

Units	Enduring Understandings	Skills
ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS	<p>Animals need to get food/avoid being food, breathe, reproduce, and stay warm/cool enough in order to survive.</p> <p>Animals can be classified by traits they have in common.</p> <p>Animals are adapted to live in certain habitats. They are born with most of these adaptations. Some adaptations are learned by the animal.</p>	<p>Demonstrate awareness of safety and of appropriate behavior.</p> <p>Cooperate and communicate in pairs or small groups.</p> <p>Pose questions relating to the science topic studied.</p> <p>Make meaningful predictions. Test predictions through directed investigations.</p> <p>Make careful observations.</p>
MOTION AND DESIGN	<p>Force is a push or a pull on an object.</p> <p>Engineers use scientific knowledge to design things people want or need.</p> <p>How fast or how slow a vehicle moves depends on how much load it carries and how much force is acting on it</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>Recognize the need to support conclusions with scientific evidence</p>
WEATHER AND WATER CYCLE	<p>Weather is what happens day to day outside.</p> <p>When we observe, measure, and record weather from day to day, we notice patterns.</p> <p>The water cycle is a major part of the weather.</p> <p>Climate is the pattern of weather year after year, and how that affects the area and the living things in the area.</p>	<p>Sort items into groups with shared properties.</p> <p>Design, build and test according to criteria.</p> <p>Tools: stop watch, metric ruler, hand lens, thermometer, barometer, rain gauge, anemometer.</p>