5th Grade Outreach Programs

Maximum class size: 30 students per presentation

Down and Dirty: Rock Cycle

How do we use rocks and minerals in our daily lives? How does a rock fit into the constantly changing geologic cycle of the Earth? Is the rock igneous, metamorphic, or sedimentary? What kinds of minerals are in it? How hard is the rock? Perform geologic tests to find out for yourself.

*Scientific Investigation, Earth Patterns SOLs: 5.1, 5.7*

Presentation Requirements: Remain in one room for all presentations, display table, students seated at desks or tables.

Cell’ebration

The vast diversity of life originates from tiny differences at the cellular level. Take a close-up look at plant and animal cells. Explore the domains and kingdoms of living organisms. Compare the difference between vertebrate or invertebrate animals and vascular or nonvascular plants. Practice using a tree diagram.

*Scientific Investigation, Living Systems SOLs: 5.1, 5.5*

Presentation Requirements: Remain in one room for all presentations, display table, 4 station tables.

Light and Sound!

How does light energy travel? Can it pass through different forms of matter? How does changing the direction and speed of light affect how objects appear to us? Where does color come from? Explore sound using a variety of objects and materials. Can you make sound waves do work? What factors affect the movement of a sound wave? What materials absorb sound? Does the shape of an object affect the sound it makes? Use what you learn to understand how musical instruments make sound.

*Force, Motion, and Energy SOLs: 5.2, 5.3*

Presentation Requirements: Must remain in one room for all presentations, display table, 4 station tables, electrical outlet.
What Matters: It's in the Bag!

Have you ever wondered why scientists wear lab coats, goggles and gloves? Find out why and get a fun introduction to chemistry. Learn the structure of atoms and molecules. Test your observation skills! How many reactions do you see taking place in the experiment? What made it all happen?

Scientific Investigation, Matter SOLs: 5.1, 5.4

Presentation Requirements: Must remain in one room for all presentations, display table, students seated at desks or tables in 4 groups, water source with sink.