



# Grade 4 Science



## Earth and Space

Rocks and Minerals  
Weathering and Erosion

## Life Science

Lifecycles  
Embryology (Chicks)  
Ecosystems  
Heredity

## Physical Science

Electricity and Magnets

## Technology

Simple Machines-Legos

# **Grade 4 Teacher Guide**

## **Earth Materials**

### **Strand-Earth and Space Science**

Give a simple explanation of what a mineral is and some examples, e.g., quartz, mica.

Identify the physical properties of minerals (hardness, color, luster, cleavage, and streak), and explain how minerals can be tested for these different physical properties.

Identify the three categories of rocks (metamorphic, igneous, and sedimentary) based on how they are formed, and explain the natural and physical processes that create these rocks.

Explain and give examples of the ways in which soil is formed (the weathering of rock by water and wind and from the decomposition of plant and animal remains).

### **Resources**

Scott Foresman Science Chapter 8

FOSS Kit

### **Essential Questions**

1. What are minerals?
2. How are sedimentary rocks formed?
3. What are igneous and metamorphic rocks?
4. How does Earth's surface wear away and change?

### **Assessment**

Teacher created assessment

## **Web sites**

Scott Foresman Science [www.sfsuccessnet.com](http://www.sfsuccessnet.com)

FOSS Kits <http://www.fossweb.com/modules3-6/index.html>

BrainPop (animated) <http://www.brainpop.com/>

<http://sln.fi.edu/fellows/payton/rocks/create/inex.html>

<http://ww.fi.edu/fellows/fellow1/oct98/index2.html>

<http://www.ivyhall.district96.k12.il.us/4th/kkhp/RockasnadMinerals/rocks.html>

Volanoes:

<http://www.fema.gov/kids/vlcano.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/havo/>

# **Grade 4 Teacher Guide**

## **Structures of Life**

### **Strand-Life Science**

Classify animals according to the physical characteristics that they share.

Differentiate between observed characteristics of plants and animals that are fully inherited (e.g., color of flower, shape of leaves, color of eyes, number of appendages) and characteristics that are affected by the climate or environment (e.g., browning of leaves due to too much sun, language spoken).

Give examples of how inherited characteristics may change over time as adaptations to changes in the environment that enable organisms to survive, e.g., shape of beak or feet, placement of eyes on head, length of neck, shape of teeth, color

Describe how energy derived from the sun is used by plants to produce sugars (photosynthesis) and is transferred within a food chain from producers (plants) to consumers to decomposers.

Give examples of how changes in the environment (drought, cold) have caused some plants and animals to die or move to new locations (migration).

Describe the major stages that characterize the life cycle of the egg and chick.

### **Resources**

Scott Foresman Science Chapter 1, 3, 4 (animals only)

4H Embryology

### **Essential Questions**

1. What are the parts of an ecosystems?
2. How do energy and matter flow through ecosystems?

3. How are animals classified?
4. How do animals adapt?
5. What is the lifecycle of animals?

## **Assessment**

Teacher created tests

## **Web sites**

Scott Foresman Science [www.sfsuccessnet.com](http://www.sfsuccessnet.com)

BrainPop (animated) <http://www.brainpop.com/>

Animal migration

[http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/poes\\_tracking/index.shtml](http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/poes_tracking/index.shtml)

Animal Kingdom

<http://www.kidport.com/RefLib/Science/Animals/Animals.htm>

Animal classifications

<http://www.everydayspelling.com/grade4/xcurricular/xcur4les34.html>

Food chains

[http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco\\_info/topics/frogs/chain\\_reaction/index.cfm](http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/frogs/chain_reaction/index.cfm)

Habitats

<http://www.scholastic.com/magicschoolbus/games/habitat/>

Embryology

<http://chickscope.beckman.uiuc.edu/>

<http://lancaster.unl.edu/4th/Embryology/movie.shtml>

# **Grade 4 Teacher Guide**

## **Circuits and Pathways**

### **Electricity and Magnets**

#### **Strand-Physical Science**

##### **Electricity**

Identify the basic forms of energy (light, sound, heat, electrical and magnetic)

Recognize that electricity in circuits requires a complete loop through which an electrical current can pass, and that electricity can produce light, heat and sound.

Identify and classify objects and materials that conduct electricity and that are insulators of electricity.

##### **Magnets**

Recognize that magnets have poles that repel and attract each other.

Identify and classify objects and materials that a magnet will and will not attract.

Explain how electromagnets can be made, and give examples of how they can be used.

##### **Resources**

Scott Foresman Science Chapter 13

FOSS Kit

##### **Essential Questions**

###### **Electricity**

1. How can energy be transferred from one form to another?

2. How do circuits complete a pathway to produce light, heat or sound?

## **Magnets**

1. What are magnetic fields?
2. What materials or objects can attract or repel a magnet?
3. How is magnetism transformed to electricity?

## **Assessment**

Teacher created tests

## **Web sites**

Scott Foresman Science [www.sfsuccessnet.com](http://www.sfsuccessnet.com)

FOSS Kits <http://www.fossweb.com/modules3-6/index.html>

BrainPop (animated) <http://www.brainpop.com/>

<http://www.aecl.ca/kidszone/atomicenergy/electricity/>

<http://www.sciencemadesimple.com/static.html#PROJECTS>

# **Grade 4 Teacher Guide**

## **Simple Machines**

### **Strand-Physical Science**

Identify and explain the difference between simple and complex machines, e.g., hand can opener that includes multiple gears, wheel, wedge, gear, and lever.

Identify and explain the appropriate materials and tools (e.g., hammer, screwdriver, pliers, tape measure, screws, nails and other mechanical fasteners) to construct a given prototype safely.

### **Resources**

Scott Foresman Science Chapter 16  
LEGO Kits

### **Essential Questions**

1. What is a machine?
2. How can machines work together?
3. What is a simple machine?
4. What is a complex machine?

### **Assessment**

Teacher created tests

### **Web sites**

Scott Foresman Science [www.sfsuccessnet.com](http://www.sfsuccessnet.com)  
BrainPop (animated) <http://www.brainpop.com/>  
<http://www.mos.org/sln/Leonardo/InventorsToolbox.html>  
<http://www.fi.edu/pieces/knox/automaton/simple.htm>  
<http://edtech.kennesaw.edu/web/simmach.html>  
[http://web.org/faculty/malone\\_karen/simple\\_machines.htm](http://web.org/faculty/malone_karen/simple_machines.htm)



# **Grade 4 Teacher Guide**

## **Engineering Design**

### **Strand-Technology**

Describe different ways in which a problem can be represented, e.g., sketches, diagrams, graphic organizers, and lists.

Identify relevant design features (e.g., size, shape, weight) for building a prototype of a solution to a given problem.

### **Resources**

Scott Foresman Science Chapter 16  
LEGO Kits  
DOE Frameworks p 86, Museum of Science

### **Essential Questions**

1. What are the steps of the design engineering process?
2. Identify relevant design features such as plans, diagrams and drawings, that can be used in the construction of prototypes and models.

### **Assessment**

Teacher created tests

### **Web sites**

Scott Foresman Science [www.sfsuccessnet.com](http://www.sfsuccessnet.com)  
BrainPop (animated) <http://www.brainpop.com/>

Museum of Science  
[http://www.mos.org/eie/engineering\\_design.php](http://www.mos.org/eie/engineering_design.php)

Lego  
[http://www.lego.com/education/primary/default.asp?pagename=main\\_dandt&l2id=3\\_1&l3id=3\\_1\\_2](http://www.lego.com/education/primary/default.asp?pagename=main_dandt&l2id=3_1&l3id=3_1_2)