



Kindergarten Science September- November 2016



Hello and welcome to Kindergarten Science. My name is Ms. Zelter and I will be your child's Science teacher for the year. I'm really looking forward to an exciting year of fun, learning, exploration and experimentation. Kids usually love coming to Science class and will have the opportunity to work with the curriculum and me twice a week for the whole year! We will be using hands-on materials everyday and will often use technology to help facilitate our units of study. All grades will be following the Foss Science Curriculum.



Our units for the fall will focus on Living and Non-Living Things. Children will be expected to know that all living things grow and change, reproduce (make copies of themselves), move on their own and need food, air and water to survive. Kindergarteners will engage in sorting or classifying pictures into living and non-living groups and drawing, labeling and writing about living and non-living things. All students will be encouraged to talk about their topic and to support their way of thinking with evidence. For instance, if a child says, "A block is a non-living thing!" I, or a friend, will say, "Prove it". An appropriate response would be, "I know a block is not living because it can't grow or change, and it doesn't need food and water to survive."

I always try to start a unit with a song to help keep the students engaged and to help them remember content concepts. Have a sing along at home.

The Living Song

(tune: Frere Jacques)

It is living!
It is living!
I know why!
I know why!
It eats and grows and moves!
It eats and grows and moves!
It breathes and reproduces!
It breathes and reproduces!
It's alive!

Important Notes:

- Please bring in supplies
- Always be prepared!

Thank you,
Ms. Zelter

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In our tree unit we will cover fall trees, leaves and trees through the seasons. We will be observing and comparing the trees in our neighborhood. Your child may come home with lots of information and questions about trees and their parts. You can join in the tree study by taking your child for walks in your neighborhood to observe trees and to compare how they are alike and how they are different. For example, see if you can find two trees of the same kind. How were you able to tell they were the same kind? Which trees lose their leaves in the fall and which keep them all year? Look closely at the leaves. What shape are they? Do the trees have buds, flowers, fruit, or seeds? By making this close examination of trees, you might notice things about trees that you never thought about before.

Parts of a Tree

(sung to the tune of
Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes)

Leaves, branches, trunk and roots.
Trunk and roots.
Leaves, branches, trunk and roots.
Trunk and roots.
Nuts and berries, seeds and fruit,
Leaves, branches, trunk and roots,
Trunks and roots.



leaves

branches

trunk

roots

Websites:

<http://extension.illinois.edu/trees1/flash/03.html>

<http://www.kidzone.ws/plants/trees.htm>

<https://www.arboday.org/kids/carly/lifeofatree/>

<http://interactivesites.weebly.com/living-things.html>