



First Grade Science September- November 2016



Hello and welcome to 1st Grade 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 once 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.

First graders will build on what they learned last year by moving from exploration to more frequent experimentation. Topics for the year include **Air and Weather**, **Solids and Liquids** (states of matter) and **Insects**.

Our fall unit will be a study of air and weather. Students will be looking for evidence that air is matter—that it is something real. They will explore the properties of air using plastic syringes and tubing. They will observe how air can be captured, how air can be compressed, and how air under pressure can move things around. They will observe daily weather conditions such as temperature, rainfall, cloud cover, wind speed, and wind direction. You can help your child learn more about weather, too. You might discuss weather reports in the newspaper or on television. Point out wind vanes if you happen to see one perched on top of a house. If you have an indoor or outdoor thermometer, read and record the temperature at about the same time each day and look for patterns. Or you may want to watch the temperature change over the course of one day. Does it happen that way every day? Weather is an ever-changing story. You can guide your child's scientific inquiry by helping him or her to make observations and by nurturing his or her natural ability to ask questions based on those observations. Don't be surprised if you end up with a list of questions much longer than the initial observations!

We use this song in class to help us remember our air concepts. Have a sing along at home.

Websites:

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/activity/weather-and-climate-13-studyjams-interactive-science-activities>

Wind with Bill Nye

<http://www.gamequarium.org/cgi-bin/search/linfo.cgi?id=7824>

Parachute egg drop video

<http://www.creativeeducation.co.uk/videos/watch-video.aspx?id=3339>

Important Notes:

- Please bring in supplies
- Always be prepared!

Thank you,
Ms. Zelter
czelter@schools.nyc.gov



All About Air

(tune: Twinkle, Twinkle)

Air, air,
Everywhere!
I can't see it.
But, I know it's there.

Air can move things.
Air takes up space.
I feel air
When it blows on my face!

Air resistance
Slows things down.
So they fall
Gently to the ground!