**SCIENCE**

**GRADE THREE**

**Curriculum Guide**

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**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**LINDEN, NEW JERSEY**

**DENISE CLEARY**

**INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT**

**MICHAEL WALTERS**

**ACTING ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT**

**ROSE GOLDSTEIN**

**SUPERVISOR OF SCIENCE**

**The Linden Board of Education adopted the Curriculum Guide on:**

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| **August 2019** |  | **Education - Item # 9** |
| **Date** |  | **Agenda Item** |
|  |
| **Rationale****Be it resolved, that all curricula within the following content areas be readopted for use in the Linden Public Schools for the 2019-2020 school year. All curricula are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.**  |

**Public Notice of Non-Discrimination**

If any student or staff member feels that they have experienced discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, gender, ancestry, national origin, social or economic status, sexual orientation or disability, contact:

Affirmative Action Officer

Kevin Thurston – (908) 486-5432 ext. 8307; kthurston@lindenps.org

504 Officer & District Anti-Bullying Coordinator

Annabell Louis – (908) 486-2800 ext. 8025; alouis@lindenps.org

Title IX Coordinator

Steven Viana – (908) 486-7085; sviana@lindenps.org

Director of Special Education

Marie Stefanick – (908) 587-3285; mstefanick@lindenps.org

**Linden Public Schools Vision**

The Linden Public School District is committed to developing respect for diversity, excellence in education, and a commitment to service, in order to promote global citizenship and ensure personal success for all students.

**Linden Public Schools Mission**

The mission of the Linden Public School District is to promote distinction through the infinite resource that is Linden’s diversity, combined with our profound commitment to instructional excellence, so that each and every student achieves their maximum potential in an engaging, inspiring, and challenging learning environment.

**Science Department Vision**

Our vision is to develop scientifically literate students, by teaching them to think critically, become problem-solvers, and develop into life-long learners. Our classrooms will be collaborative settings that are driven by discovery, exploratory learning, and which require each student to actively engage throughout the learning to successfully construct explanations and design solutions.

**Science Department Mission Statement**

The mission of the Science Department is to create a community of diverse learners and educators who foster equitable active learning, quantitative reasoning, and scientific inquiry. Through integration of classroom laboratory, research, and practical experiences, students acquire skills necessary for life-long learning, critical thinking, and collaborative problem-solving. Our students will engage in the “Practices of Science” as they investigate the natural and designed worlds seeking to construct explanations for phenomena and design solutions for problems. They will collaboratively ask questions, develop and use models, plan and carry out investigations, analyze data, use mathematics and computational thinking, construct explanations, engage in argument from evidence, and obtain, evaluate, and communicate information. These will serve as foundations for informed, responsible citizens, and their successful careers, in an ever-changing world that is increasingly dependent on evidence-based decision making, science, technology, and engineering.

**Science Department Goals**

The Science Department strives to provide ***all*** students with an engaging program that:

• Captures the imagination and curiosity, producing scientifically literate, life-long learners.

• Develops critical thinking skills, positive science attitudes, and problem-solving skills through collaborative, inquiry centered investigation.

• Provides context and connections to deepen their proficiency in literacy, mathematics, and use of technology; and

 • Continuously improves through professional learning experiences which ensure equity and excellence in on-going, research-based educator development.

1. **Course Description**

The **Structures of Life** module deals with the big ideas in life science. Plants and animals are organisms and exhibit a variety of strategies for life. Organisms are complex and have a variety of observable structures and behaviors, organisms have varied but predictable life cycles and reproduce their own kind, and individual organisms have variations in their traits that may provide an advantage in surviving in the environment. In the **Water and Climate** module students learn that water is the most important substance on Earth. Water dominates the surface of our planet, changes the face of the land, and defines life. Weather is driven by the Sun and involves movement of water over the earth through evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and runoff – the water cycle. Human societies depend on water and new technologies to conserve and protect this natural resource. Students explore the properties of water, water cycle, weather, interaction between water and other earth materials. The **Motion and Matter** module provides students with physical science ideas dealing with forces, matter, and engineering. Magnetism and gravity are the forces students explore as they look for patterns of motion to predict future motion. Students work with magnets and paper clips, wheel and axle systems, paper air twirlers, and rotating tops. Students use metric tools to quantify and refine observations by measuring mass and volume. Students make mixtures and solutions to develop an understanding of conservation of mass and observe simple chemical reactions.

1. **Course Instructional Material**

Structures of Life-Full Option Science Systems

Water and Climate – Full Option Science Systems

Motion and Matter-Full option Science Systems

1. **Standards Guiding Instruction**

New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science

<https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/science/Index.shtml>

New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts

<https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/ela/Index.shtml>

New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Mathematics

<https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/math/Index.shtml>

New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Social Studies

<https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/socst/index.shtml>

New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Computer Science and Design Thinking

<https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/compsci/Index.shtml>

New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills

<https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/clicks/index.shtml>

1. **Pacing Guide**

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| --- | --- |
| First | Structures of Life |
| Second | Motion and Matter |
| Third | Water and Climate |

1. **Curriculum Guide**