

Science Toolkit: Grade 3 Objective 1.D.3.d

Standard 1.0 Skills and Processes

Topic D. Technology

Indicator 3. Examine and modify models and discuss their limitations.

Objective d. Realize that one way to make sense of something is to think how it is like something more familiar.

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Science Grade 3 Indicator 1.D.3

Making Models

As students develop beyond their natural play with models, they should begin to modify them and discuss their limitations. What happens if wheels are taken off, or weight is added, if different materials are used, or if the model gets wet? Is that what would happen to the real things? Students also can begin to compare their objects, drawings, and constructions to the things they portray or resemble (real houses, airplanes, etc.). Students can begin to formulate their own models to explain things they cannot observe directly. By testing their models and changing them as more information is acquired, they begin to understand how science works.

Introduction

Science Grade 3 Standard 1

Children's strategies for finding out more and more about their surroundings improve as they gain experience in conducting simple investigations of their own and working in small groups. They should be encouraged to observe more and more carefully, measure things with increasing accuracy, record data clearly in logs and journals, and communicate their results in charts and simple graphs as well as in prose. Class discussions of the procedures and findings can provide the beginnings of scientific argument and debate. By the end of Grade 5, children will have had multiple experiences applying and practicing all of the listed science skills and processes across the concept areas.