

# Dear Parent,



We're excited to have your child in Kindergarten at Whitmore Lake Elementary School.

This is a very important year in your child's life, and we're pleased to be part of it.

At school, we're building on the skills that your child has already learned and we're introducing new ones. See this side of the brochure for details about what we're doing this year in Science.

At home, your child can practice the skills we're learning at school. See the other side of this brochure for easy things that you can do to encourage that practice.

By working together, we can make sure that your child acquires the skills he or she needs to be successful in school and life.

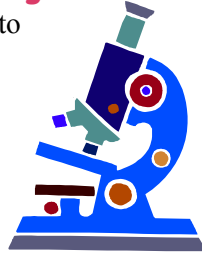
We look forward to working with you and your child this year. When you have questions, please feel free to contact us at 449-2051.

Sincerely,  
The Kindergarten Teachers

## In every grade, we teach Science skills that will help students:

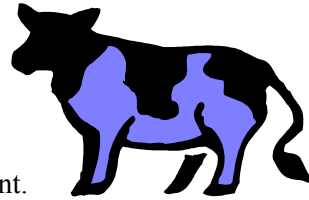
### Learn by investigating

- Use scientific methods to ask questions, conduct investigations using technology, and gather, analyze, and communicate information.



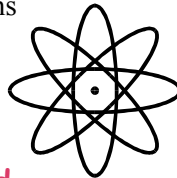
### Understand living things

- Understand the structure and function of living things, their systems and how living things interact with the environment.



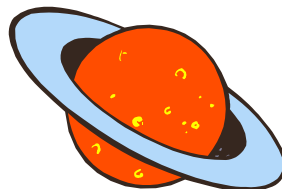
### Understand natural forces

- Understand the interactions between matter, energy, forces, and motion.



### Understand earth and space

- Understand the cycles and systems of the Earth, solar system and universe.



## In Kindergarten, we teach Science skills that will help your child:

### Learn by investigating

- Generate questions from observations.
- Develop strategies and skills for gathering information and problem solving.
- Develop awareness for the need to gather evidence before making scientific decisions.
- Use simple tools to gather data and make observations.
- Classify objects by observable properties.
- Construct charts and graphs using the data collected.

### Understand living things

- Classify living and nonliving things by their observable characteristics.
- Describe the basic needs of living things, such as oxygen, and food.
- Describe positive and negative effects of humans on the environment.



### Understand natural forces

- Describe common physical changes in matter.
- Prepare mixtures and separate them into their parts.
- Describe possible electrical hazards.



### Understand earth and space

- Describe different types of weather conditions.
- Describe Michigan's seasonal changes.
- Explain appropriate safety precautions during severe weather conditions.



### Learn by investigating

- Ask your child questions that can't be answered by yes or no.
- Use tools such as rulers or magnifying glasses to explore the world.
- Sort toys by color, size, and shape.
- Make a chart for your child's chores at home.



### Understand living things

- Observe living things while taking a walk.
- Teach your child to take care of the family pet.
- Read books about or observe animals that are endangered.
- Recycle and reuse materials at home.

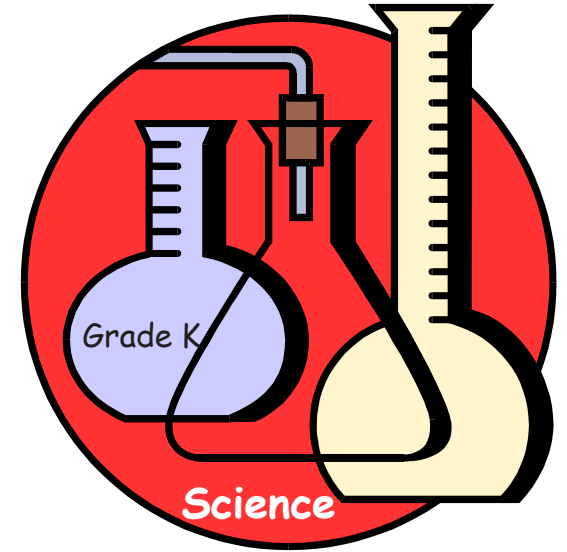
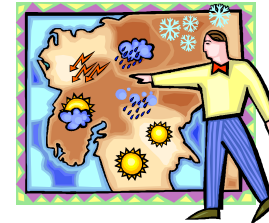
### Understand natural forces

- Make popsicles to observe the freezing process.
- Observe what happens to ice when left in the hot sun.

- Use a magnet to separate paperclips from a pile of sand.

### Understand earth and space

- Observe and discuss weather conditions with your child.
- Chart weather conditions on a calendar using stickers.
- Watch the weather channel to see different kinds of weather.
- Select appropriate clothing for the day's weather.
- Talk about what to do in a thunderstorm, tornado, and blizzard.
- Point out safe and dangerous places to play with toys such as kites (away from electrical wires).




Whitmore Lake Elementary School

In Kindergarten,  
we're teaching  
your child  
important  
discovery skills.

*What are these skills?*

*How can you help your child  
practice them?*

 ...exceptional,  
personalized education

**For more good ideas, ask your  
child's teacher, or contact:**  
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Michigan • 48189  
(734) 449-2051 • <http://www.wlps.net>