

DRAFT

Third Grade

The Five Unifying Themes of Helena School District #1 Science Students.

The Unifying Themes outline the major skills, concepts, facts, or processes that students need to master or demonstrate proficiency in by the completion of the grade level or course. Unifying Themes do not supplant or replace the curriculum, but list identified skills, concepts, facts, or processes presented in full within the curriculum that are foundational to future learning. They are a quick way to see the enduring and essential understandings presented fully in the curriculum that students need to acquire for life. They represent overarching themes that should be emphasized and reemphasized over and over again through out any given grade level as well as transcend a students' entire science education.

1. Problem Solving

- ❖ Conduct a simple experiment, identify the variable and record data (with some teacher direction)
- ❖ Formulate hypothesis and predict outcome

2. Measurements/Technology

- ❖ Accurately select and use tools for simple measurement
- ❖ Observe and record weather data, demonstrate how weather conditions are measured
- ❖ Recognizes how technology, science and society are connected

3. Classification/Grouping

- ❖ Identify the parts of plants, their function and relationship to the environment

4. Models/Systems

- ❖ Identify and describe a simple machine
- ❖ Explain the relationship between the sun, Earth and moon

5. Communication/Vocabulary

- ❖ Communicate scientific data with supporting evidence
- ❖ List occupations that historically use science