

DRAFT

Fifth 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

- ❖ Follow and use the steps of the scientific method to conduct a scientific investigation

2. Measurements/Technology

- ❖ Metric measurement
- ❖ Newton's Laws

3. Classification/Grouping

- ❖ Classify rocks and minerals
- ❖ Identify Earth's features
- ❖ Compare and contrast different forms of energy
- ❖ Newton's Laws

4. Models/Systems

- ❖ Build and describe a complex machine
- ❖ Construct a simple model of an atom
- ❖ Body systems
- ❖ Plant cell and animal cell

5. Communication/Vocabulary

- ❖ Incorporate scientific method and explain scientific experiments based upon gathered evidence
- ❖ List occupations that historically use science