

**Sacred Heart School**  
**Grade 5 Course Syllabi**

Science  
Grade 5

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**Course Description:** The fifth grade science program is based on discovery and research following the Scientific Method approach. We question, hypothesize, experiment, record and draw conclusions. We try to make science fun, interactive, and spark curiosity.

**Course Content:** Topics covered in the Science curriculum include weather and climate, motion and energy, plant life, ecology, and health and sex education which cover drug awareness and family life.

**General Course Objectives:**

**Earth: Weather and Climate:**

The student will:

- Learn about the atmosphere and temperature of the earth.
- Study about clouds, precipitation, and wind.
- Understand weather forecasting, predicting storms, and preparing for hazardous storms.

**Physical: Motion and Energy:**

The student will:

- Learn the properties of matter, elements, and compounds.
- Learn Newton's Laws.
- Learn about sound waves.
- Learn about simple machines, levers, and inclined planes.

**Life: Plant Life:**

The student will:

- Learn classifying, life cycles, adaption, and survival.
- Identifies the part of a seed and describes their functions.
- Identifies the parts of common plants (leaves, roots, stems).

- Understands various types of plant reproduction (spores, seeds, bulbs, and cuttings).
- Identifies parts of flowers and describes their functions.
- Relates photosynthesis to both a respiratory process and a food process.

**Ecology:**

The student will:

- Learn the interdependence of ecosystems.
- Learn about the preservation of the rain forest and the importance it has on our air and water.
- Knows that environment is the combination of all external factors which affect and influence growth, development, and reproduction of organisms.
- Knows how seasonal and weather changes affect living organisms.
- Identify and discuss activities and issues that threaten air quality.
- Identify and discuss activities and issues that threaten water quality.

**Health: Sex Education and Drug Awareness:**

The student will:

- Differentiate between male and female reproductive systems.
- Explain the menstrual cycle.
- Define the term drug.
- Discuss the medical uses and effects of drugs.
- Discusses how drugs affect different people in different ways.
- Notes the harmful changes in the body due to alcohol.
- Explains long-term and short-term effects of alcohol abuse.
- Notes effects of mixing alcohol and drugs (medications).
- Identifies the role of peer pressure in regard to alcohol use.
- Explains the need to make responsible decisions about drinking.
- Describes ways nicotine may be harmful to health.
- Identifies how smoking can be hazardous to others (second hand smoke, fires).
- Explains how cigarette ads try to convince people to buy cigarettes.
- Examines the role of peer pressure in underage smoking.

**Course Materials:** Textbook –Scott Foresman Science (2010), websites

**Instructional Strategies:** Whole class discussion, Experiments, Group projects, Peer tutoring, Independent learning, Use of the Scientific Method with Science Fair projects

**Assessment:** Teacher observation, Class participation, Completion of projects and experiments, Worksheets, Homework, Tests/Quizzes