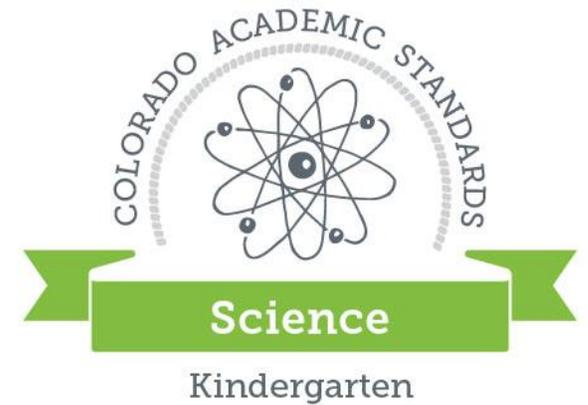


A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Kindergarten Science. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

Science for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The science standards in the elementary grades lay the foundation for students to work as scientists by asking testable questions, collecting and analyzing different types of evidence, and by providing rationales for their interpretations. Mastery of these standards will result in students who have a deep understanding of science and how scientific knowledge can provide solutions to practical problems.

Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Joanna Bruno, Science Content Specialist at 303-919-3907, Bruno_j@cde.state.co.us



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At the end of
Kindergarten,
students can...



Science Learning Expectations for Kindergarten

Physical Science

Understand that objects can move in a variety of ways that can be described by speed and direction, sorted by physical properties, observed, and measured.

Life Science

Understand that organisms can be described and sorted by their physical characteristics (shape, size); share observations and ideas with others in a clear and specific way.

Earth Science

Understand that the sun provides heat and light to Earth; use tools such as magnifying glasses, sorting blocks, and rulers in scientific investigations.

Throughout Kindergarten, you may find students...

- Observing, investigating, and describing how different objects move; sorting objects by using their physical features.
- Observing that the Sun provides heat and light to Earth.
- Sorting a group of items (seeds, bugs) based on observable features.
- Explaining and justifying (using evidence) reasons for sorting living things (organisms) into certain categories.
- Analyzing and interpreting temperature data between day and night.
- Talking about what happens if the sun's light is blocked and about the effect of heat and light on the growth of plants.

