

## 3rd Grade Science Curriculum

### Structures of Life

Winter: *Glenwood, Highland, Skyline, Sunnycrest*

Spring: *Hillcrest, Mt. Pilchuck*

#### **Unit Goals:**

- *Develop an attitude of respect for life.*
- *Gain experience with organisms, both plants and animals.*
- *Observe and compare properties of seeds and fruits.*
- *Investigate the effect of water on seeds.*
- *Observe, describe, and record properties of germinated seeds.*
- *Compare different kinds of germinated seeds.*
- *Grow plants hydroponically and observe the life cycle of a bean plant.*
- *Observe and record beetle and land snail structures and behavior.*
- *Use knowledge of beetle and snail life requirements to maintain the organisms in the classroom.*
- *Organize data about beetle behavior.*
- *Develop responsibility for the care of organisms.*
- *Exercise language, art, social studies, and math skills in the context of life science.*
- *Use scientific thinking processes to conduct investigations and build explanations: observing, communicating, comparing, and organizing.*

### Earth Materials

Fall: *Glenwood, Highland, Hillcrest*

Winter: *Mt. Pilchuck*

Spring: *Skyline, Sunnycrest*

#### **Unit Goals:**

- *Develop an interest in earth materials.*
- *Gain experiences with rocks and minerals.*
- *Understand the process of taking apart and putting together to find out about materials.*
- *Use measuring tools to gather data about rocks.*
- *Collect and organize data about rocks.*
- *Observe, describe, and record properties of minerals.*
- *Organize minerals on the basis of the property of hardness.*
- *Investigate the effect of vinegar (acid) on a specific mineral, calcite.*
- *Use evaporation to investigate rock composition.*
- *Learn that rocks are composed of minerals and that minerals cannot be physically separated into other materials.*
- *Compare their activities to the work of a geologist.*
- *Acquire vocabulary used in earth science.*
- *Use scientific thinking processes to conduct investigations and build explanations: observing communicating, comparing, and organizing.*