

## Middle Grades 6 – 8

The middle school science component of the *SCS* focuses on the Unifying Concepts of Science as identified by the *National Science Education Standards*. The unifying concepts and the Strands should be integrated with science content goals and objectives for middle school.

**The Unifying Concepts of Science** consist of:

- Systems, Order, and Organization.
- Evidence, Models, and Explanation.
- Constancy, Change, and Measurement.
- Evolution and Equilibrium.
- Form and Function.

The **Strands** include the following goals:

### **Nature of Science**

As a result of activities in grades 6-8, all students should develop an understanding of:

- Science as a human endeavor.
  - Nature of scientific knowledge.
  - Historical perspectives.
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### **Science as Inquiry**

As a result of activities in grades 6-8, all students should develop an understanding of:

- Ability to do scientific inquiry.
  - Understanding about scientific inquiry.
  - Ability to perform safe and appropriate manipulation of materials, scientific equipment, and technology.
  - Mastery of integrated process skills.
    - acquiring, processing, and interpreting data
    - identifying variables and their relationships
    - designing investigations
    - experimenting
    - analyzing investigations
    - constructing hypotheses
    - formulating models
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**Science and Technology**

As a result of activities in grades 6-8, all students should develop an understanding of:

- What technologies are.
  - Ability to perform technological design.
  - Understanding science and technology.
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**Science in Personal and Social Perspectives**

As a result of activities in grades 6-8, all students should develop an understanding of:

- Personal and community health.
  - Population dynamics.
  - Environmental quality.
  - Natural and human-induced hazards.
  - Science and technology in local, national, and global challenges.
  - Careers in science and technology.
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