

ELEMENTARY SCIENCE

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2009-2010?

- 🍏 The Next Generation Sunshine State Science Standards (NGSSSS) will be implemented in grades K-3 this year.
- 🍏 Fourth and fifth grades will continue to focus on the old Sunshine State Standards while phasing in the newly adopted Next Generation Sunshine State Science (NGSSSS). Fourth and fifth grade students will continue to be assessed on the old standards on FCAT Science for the next 2 years.
- 🍏 FCAT Science will only consist of multiple choice items for elementary students. Short and extended response items will no longer be a part of the FCAT Science.
- 🍏 Weekly instructional focus calendars are being created for grades K-5 for use by all schools.
- 🍏 The textbooks and hands-on kits are being correlated to the new standards.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO?

- 🍏 Science instruction should take place on a daily basis in ALL grades K-5.
- 🍏 Monitor the implementation of science standards and benchmarks.
- 🍏 Monitor use of the Science Performance Task and Test Specifications by teachers in grades 4 and 5. Does instruction and assessment align to the Test Specifications?
- 🍏 Include science data in data chats.
- 🍏 Implement use of the instructional focus calendars at all grade levels.
- 🍏 Conduct classroom walk-throughs focusing on science teaching and learning.
- 🍏 Monitor implementation of the hands-on science experiences for students. These should occur on a weekly basis.
- 🍏 Encourage use of science journals by all students.
- 🍏 Meet with the teachers who attended summer science staff development. Develop a plan for school-based science staff development.
- 🍏 Assess staff development needs and register teachers for staff development in Fall 2009.
- 🍏 Encourage teachers to participate in online staff development courses through BVU.
- 🍏 Utilize the mini-benchmark assessments for science to assess science learning.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU DON'T?

- 🍏 Failure to implement these initiatives may negatively impact student achievement.

WHO NEEDS TO KNOW?

- 🍏 Administrators and administrative staff
- 🍏 All teachers
- 🍏 Area Directors Office

HOW WILL YOU COMMUNICATE FOLLOW-UP?

- 🍏 Inservice faculty and staff

CONTACT

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