

Unit 2: Year 3

How the World Works



An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

Central Idea:

Forces affect life on Earth.

Concepts: Form, Function

Lines of inquiry:

- Types of forces
- Newton's laws
- How forces influence our lives

Throughout this unit the students will:

- engage in a variety of experiments to learn about forces and the scientific method. Some of these experiments may include making a parachute for a small toy to learn about gravity and air resistance and making a magnetic fishing game to learn about attraction and repulsion
- make a gyrocopter and learn about what makes a fair test
- re-design their gyrocopter to improve its flight time and spinning ability.
- investigate forces looking at images of children on playgrounds and take this further by using their own bodies to learn about forces at work
- consider what forces they might find acting in different environments such as the kitchen bathroom, classroom, supermarket, bedroom.
- sort various forces into push and pull categories
- learn how to write instructional texts

Focus skills for this unit

Research: Observing– using the senses to notice relevant details students will practise to use their skills of observation when carrying out and watching experiments.

Planning–students will develop a course of action and devise ways of finding out information

Formulating questions–student will identify something they want to know and asking relevant questions that can be researched.

Self management: Fine motor skills–students will develop skills in precision using their hands.

Thinking: Evaluation– students will make judgments or decisions based on chosen criteria

Summative (end of unit) Task: Students will visit will a playground to experience real life forces in action and identify these forces. They will be expected to reflect on their playground experience and make connections between this and forces.

BEACON HILL SCHOOL

