

Science Activities

The Happy Scientist

Go to www.thehappyscientist.com. Explore this website. Some of the site is by subscription but much of it is free. Find a video you like and write a one paragraph summary about what you learned. Find an experiment you can duplicate at home. Be sure you follow all safety instructions and ask for adult help if you need it. Do the experiment for friends and/or family. Practice the experiment so you can conduct it for your classmates when you return to school.

Great Balls of Fire

Write a play about our solar system. The characters are the sun, planets, moons, asteroids, satellites, and anything else that you would like to include. Have the characters interact with one another as they do in the solar system. Design and draw “costumes” for the actors that depict the distinguishing characteristics of who they represent. Your play can be a comedy, science fiction, drama or a musical.

Water, Water Everywhere

Build a functional model of the water cycle that you can bring to school.

BrainPop

Go to www.brainpop.com. Sign in as rmsnj with a password of rmspop000. Watch a science video of your choosing, take the quiz and do any activities or experiments that are listed immediately below the video. Bring or email all work you complete to your science teacher. This website is only available from 7:30-5:30 M-F.

PBS Kids

Go to www.pbskids.org/go/. On the homepage on the left side is an interactive box. Scroll through the options and find “Make It.” Choose one of the three options; Build Projects, Zoomdo or Activities to Go. Pick one of the activities and have fun. Please check with an adult before doing any of these activities.

Gizmos

Go to www.explorlearning.com. *If you have a class code from your science teacher, click on the “Enroll in a Class” button in the upper right hand corner of the web page. Follow the directions and enter the class code and any*

other necessary school information. If you are signing in for the first time, please use your school username and password when prompted for that information. Do not enter any personal information. Complete any of the Gizmos in the class by “launching” the Gizmo and following the “Exploration Guide” at the top left side of the Gizmo. Take the 5 question online quiz after you have finished the guide and understand the material. Only the grade you get the first time you take the quiz will be recorded so you may wish to review the questions before actually taking the quiz. In order to get credit, you must get at least 4/5 correct on the quiz.

If you do not have a class code, select the 30 day free trial and follow the instructions to begin using the gizmos. Choose from any of these Gizmos and follow the instruction above for completing them.

- Solar System Explorer
- Rabbit Population by Season
- Food Chain
- Greenhouse Effect
- Shoot the Monkey
- Mystery Powder Analysis
- Household Energy Use
- Moon Phases

Textbook

8th Graders

In your textbook starting on page 712 there is an Activity Bank. Some of these Activities can be done at home with readily available materials. Read through the activities and find some that are of interest to you. Be sure to follow all instruction and safety precautions. Please review all activity procedures with an adult approval before doing any activity.

6th and 7th Graders

Throughout the textbook you will find “Discover,” “Try This,” and “At Home” activities. Most of these you can do with materials you have at home. Find some activities that are interest to you and do them at home. Be sure to follow all instructions and safety precautions. Please review all activity procedures with an adult before doing any activity.

Your Neighbors

Explore your yard or neighborhood and identify at least 10 different species of plants or animals. Create and index card for each species with a drawing or picture on one side and information on the other side. Record the date, time and location of each species you discover. Include scientific information about the species’ habitat, life, range, description and role in the ecosystem. Include all evidence, such as recognition marks, that supports you

identification. Please do not harm any of the life forms you find and leave them in their environment.

The Atmosphere and Beyond

Create a table to record atmospheric and astronomical data for 10 consecutive 24 hour periods. Include at least temperature, cloud cover, precipitation, wind speed and direction, sunrise/sunset time and compass direction, and moon phases. By hand or with excel make a graph plotting the high and low temperatures for the 10 day period. Analyze all your data and identify any patterns. For instance, did the temperature increase or decrease over the 10 days? What was the greatest difference in daily temperature? Submit your data table and analysis to your science teacher.

Science Times

Every Tuesday the New York Times has a section in the newspaper call Science Times. Get a copy of this section and read through it. Find an article that you find interesting and write a 3 paragraph summary. Alternatively, create a PowerPoint presentation summary or some other electronic media summary. Or, you may also make a poster that describes the article using drawings, pictures and words.