

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
EARTH SYSTEMS ELEMENTARY SCIENCE PROGRAM FRAMEWORK
ADOPTED MAY 2003

PROCESS EMPHASIS: The **Earth Systems Program** is inquiry-based science which includes the following process skills: observing, classifying, measuring, predicting, inferring, summarizing, communicating, collecting data, analyzing data, drawing conclusions, building models, interpreting evidence and experimenting.

GRADE	FOCUS	LIFE SCIENCE	PHYSICAL SCIENCE	EARTH SCIENCE	INVESTIGATIONS AND APPLICATIONS
K	<i>Characteristics</i>	Life Characteristics Insights: Myself and Others	Properties of Matter FOSS: Wood & Paper	Properties of Earth Materials FOSS: Pebbles, Sand & Silt	Dinosaur Digs or Balls and Ramps (example)
1	<i>Inter-relationships</i>	Comparing Animals ASD: Alaskan Animals	Comparing Matter NSRC: Balancing and Weighing	Watersheds ASD: The Power of Water	Investigating Insects (example)
2	<i>Cycles</i>	Cycles in Life NSRC: Plant Growth & Development	Investigating Vibration Insights: Sound	Characteristics & Behavior of Soil NSRC: Soils	Butterflies, Salmon, or Birds (example)
3	<i>Change</i>	Seasonal Variation ASD: Observing Alaskan Plants	Observing Changes NSRC: Changes	Recording & Interpreting Data ASD: Weather	Mystery Powders (example)
4	<i>Systems</i>	Skeletal Systems Insights: Bones & Skeletons	Electrical Systems Insights: Circuits & Pathways	Mineral Identification FOSS: Earth Materials	Alaska Sea and River Week (example)
5	<i>Energy Flows</i>	Energy for Life NSRC: Ecosystems	Testing Variables FOSS: Variables	Energy Sources ARIES: Exploring Energy	Aviation or Levers & Pulleys (example)
6	<i>Scale and Structure</i>	Waste Management Insights: There Is No Away	Form & Function Insights: Structures	Relative Size & Distance ASD: Astronomy	Outdoor School or Voyage of the Mimi (example)

FOSS = Full Option Science Study
NSRC = National Science Resource Center
ASD = Anchorage School District
Insights Elementary Science Curriculum
ARIES = Harvard-Smithsonian