

Forde-Ferrier Educational Services
Science
Success on TAKS

SUCCESS ON TAKS

- Knowledge of all TEKS science skills
- Grades 2-4 must teach science TEKS
- Knowledge of science vocabulary
- Knowledge of science facts

WHAT TO EXPECT ON TAKS

- All skills tested are directly from TEKS
- Some skills from earlier grades could be tested even though they were not reviewed in 5th grade
- Every problem is not “higher-order/rigorous”
- Some items will require use of paper centimeter ruler provided
- There will be lots of graphics
- Some problems are simply math problems
- Students need over 70% to pass

The TAKS test is divided into 4 areas: The nature of science

Life science

Physical science

Earth science

OVERALL STRATEGIES:

Organize science materials according to the 4 areas tested

Experiments help understanding, but are NOT necessary to succeed on test:

Creating pictures, diagrams and graphs as well as analyzing written data and using science vocabulary are much more effective

SCIENTIFIC PROCESSES IN KINDERGARTEN

- Make observations
- Ask a question
- Make a hypothesis
- Plan and do a Test
- Record and Analyze
- Draw conclusions

- Science safety
- Science equipment (be able to recognize these)
 - calculator
 - microscope
 - ruler
 - thermometer
 - compass
 - meter stick
 - timing device
 - magnets
 - collecting nets
 - safety goggles

LIFE SCIENCE IN KINDERGARTEN:

- Living vs. nonliving. Living things are called organisms
- Parts of a plant: seed, roots, stem, leaves, flower, fruit
- Life cycles:
 - Butterfly - egg, caterpillar (larva) pupa (chrysalis) adult
 - Ladybug – egg, larva, adult
- Living things grow and change

PHYSICAL SCIENCE IN KINDERGARTEN (TAKS has many matter questions)

- Matter
- Properties of matter: color, shape, smell, taste, size, (function, melting point, boiling point, magnetism, conductor of electricity)
- States of matter: solid, liquid, gas
- Light: form of energy
 - travels in waves and in all directions from source
 - can be reflected and refracted
- Sound: produced by vibrations

EARTH SCIENCE IN KINDERGARTEN (most difficult area of science for students!!!!)

- Deals with earth, sun, moon and planets
- Physical features of earth: landforms
- Comparing the earth and the moon
- Changes over time: seasons and moon cycle/sun cycle, day/night
- The earth's resources: renewable, nonrenewable, inexhaustible
- Understand the role of fossils
- Properties of the sun: energy source for earth
- Weather
- Stars
- Rocks (fossils, sedimentary, igneous, metamorphic), dirt