

Curriculum Parent Overview - Unit 2 (Grade 3)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

UNIT #2: AMAZING ANIMALS (8 WEEKS)

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: What's so amazing about living things?

ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS:

Students will understand that living things change over time - both short and long term. Students will understand that there are many different types of living things and that they are all amazing for different reasons and to different people. Students will understand that they can communicate those amazing characteristics with others through a variety of dialogue strategies and writing techniques.

ATTITUDES - STUDENTS WILL BE...

- Open to discussing and exploring different animals and their adaptations while being willing to share their new thinking with peers
- Build curiosity around many different animals and the characteristics that make each amazing

SKILLS - STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO...

- Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- Use evidence to support thinking.
- Engage effectively in a collaborative conversation.
- Build on others' ideas after listening to their opinions.

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT...

- What does it take for something to be great? Or Amazing? What is something that makes you amazing?
- What features or characteristics make an animal seem "ugly"?
- Which animal has the most interesting or amazing adaptation? What makes that adaptation so unique/appealing?
- What text features were helpful to you? What could have been added to help you better understand the article's main idea?
- What can third graders in West Aurora do to help make an impact on the endangered animals?
- What other animals have a life cycle? What are the different stages in each?