



PhD: Doctor of Science

Target Audience: K-5th grade

Description: Students learn about the variety of scientists and what each scientist does. Students watch videos, read books, create models, and do small group activities to solidify this knowledge.

Format: Each session can be presented in one class period from 45-60 minutes.

Session 1: What is a Scientist?

Youth are introduced to concepts like observation and inference. Students also learn about what scientists do. Students read a book about a scientist and then discuss what the scientist observed in the story as well as what he inferred from his experiments.

Session 2: Astronomy

Youth learn what astronomy means through group discussion. Students also learn about the Milky Way. Students build their own solar system and do an activity about gravity.

Session 3: Meteorology

Students learn about meteorology by reading background information and do an activity with thermometers. Youth draw pictures of their favorite weather while using correct scientific language.

Session 4: Oceanography

Youth learn about oceans, seas, and creatures that live in large bodies of water. Students label each ocean on a large map, and read a story about Jacques Cousteau. Students learn about the layers of the ocean, choose a layer of the ocean and draw animals that live in that layer.

Session 5: Zoology

Students watch a movie about a wildlife scientist in Alaska. Students watch a short video about sea otters and record their observations. Students complete a graph based on the variety of better behaviors they noticed.

Session 6: Paleontology

Students read a book about paleontology and make their own fossils. Youth create their own dinosaur and complete a story about their dinosaur.

The “PhD: Doctor of Science” curriculum and activity kit can be borrowed for one month.