

# Our Lady of the Assumption School

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

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Sixth grade is the first year to have a specific focus for science class, **Earth Science**. The curriculum at Our Lady of the Assumption has always been aligned with the Diocesan Curriculum Standards (**DCS**) and California's Common Core State Standards. The goal is to meet standards and have the students well prepared for high school science.

**DCS 1.0 Plate Tectonics and Earth's Structure:** Plate tectonics explain important features of the Earth's surface and the major geologic events God has created. As the basis for understanding this concept, students will learn:

**Chapter 4: Plate Tectonics**

**Chapter 5: Earthquakes**

**Chapter 6: Volcanoes**

**DCS 2.0 Shaping The Earth's Surface:** Topography is reshaped by weathering of rock and soil and by the transportation and deposition of sediment. As the basis for understanding this concept, students will learn:

**Chapter 3: Erosion and Deposition**

**Chapter 2: Weathering and Soil**

**DCS 3.0 Heat (Thermal Energy):** Heat moves in a predictable flow from warmer objects to cooler objects until all objects are at the same temperature. All forms of energy are controlled by God.

**DCS 4.0 Energy In the Earth System:** Many phenomena on Earth's surface are affected by the transfer of energy through radiation and convection currents, as planned by God. As the basis for understanding these concepts, students will learn:

**Chapter 7: The Atmosphere**

**Chapter 8: Weather**

**Chapter 9: Climate and Climate Change**

**DCS 5.0 Ecology:** Organisms in ecosystems exchange energy and nutrients among themselves and with the physical environment in God's amazing circle of life.

**DCS 6.0 Resources:** Sources of energy and materials differ in amounts, distributions, usefulness and the time required for their formation. God has provided a huge array of resources, which we must use wisely. As the basis for understanding these concepts, students will learn:

**Chapter 11: Living Resources**

**Chapter 10: Ecosystem**

**Chapter 12: Energy and Material Resources**

**DCS 7.0 Investigation and Experimentation:** Scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. As a basis for understanding this concept, students will be required to complete a **SCIENCE PROJECT**, and they will participate in the School Science Fair in February.

**Chapter 1: Introduction to Earth Science**

*(Please note: The Diocesan Content Standards will not necessarily be taught in numerical order. Please see our class website for topics currently being covered.)*

The textbook for the sixth grade is: Focus on California Earth Science from Prentice – Hall. In this text, there are many additional resources throughout each chapter that can be accessed online for review, reinforcement and enrichment. In addition, the textbook can be downloaded onto a MP3 player at the website: [www.californiascience.com](http://www.californiascience.com). All Diocesan Standards are met with this text.

The sixth grade Science field trip will be a visit to the Yolo Basin Foundation: Discover the Flyway program. We will be going on this field trip in May.



