

## All About Science

Children are naturally curious, they always have an abundance of questions for both parents and teachers; “Why does the sun shine?” “What makes cars move?” “Who made the ocean?” “Where do birds sleep?” Questions such as these are opportunities to teach science to your child.

Children who are exposed to science at a young age will be more inclined to be interested in science as teens and young adults. Initially, when encouraging your child to enjoy science you can start with the basics; smell, touch, taste, hear and sight. Expand to wider topics once your child shows an interest. You can talk about famous inventors and all the things that we take for granted that were not here, until someone had an idea that was “outside of the box.” Explain how most inventors failed many times and were ridiculed by others, before achieving success. When children hear these stories, they are encouraged to persevere and not give up. You could take trips to botanical gardens and talk about how plants need sun and water in order to grow; just as people need healthy foods and exercise. Visit science museums, the ocean or nature walks in the hills. There are many things to share about science with your children. Try some experiments at home. Talk about the experiments before you begin. Make it a science project; write about the procedure, what they think may happen, and then a conclusion, what did happen. Be enthusiastic about the experiments and excited by the results. For example, melt some cheese and watch how it turns from solid to liquid. Next, take whipping cream and mix it until it changes into butter and goes from liquid to solid. Make ice cream floats and see the results when you mix the soda with ice cream. Add a teaspoon of baking soda to white vinegar and watch the results. Buy a book on science experiments for kids; they have all kinds of fun projects to try.

Encourage your child to be curious and eager to learn how, what, when and why things happen in science. When children are aware of the world around them and its inhabitants, they become more responsible and have a greater appreciation for life. They learn about success and failure and become critical thinkers and problem solvers. Science is an important subject that’s part of our daily life and in almost everything we do. From a brain surgeon to a ballet dancer, it’s all science. Giving children a knowledge and love for science creates a great foundation for success in life.

At Woodcrest School our kindergarten through 2nd grade students learn some form of science in the classroom daily. Our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders visit the Science Lab twice a week and are taught by our extremely talented science team. In addition to their curriculum that includes many experiments they have an ongoing “Woodcrest Global Science Monitoring Station.” They take turns monitoring every aspect of the earth and planets from Astrophysics to Seismology.

Shosh Byron  
Executive Director  
Woodcrest School