LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Science Inquiry Learning Expectations: Grades K-5

SCIENCE INQUIRY

Massachusetts Frameworks:

Engaging students in inquiry-based instruction is one way of developing conceptual understanding, content knowledge, and scientific skills. Scientific inquiry as a means to understand the natural and humanmade worlds requires the application of content knowledge through the use of scientific skills.

Big Ideas:

- ☐ Scientific knowledge is constantly changing.
- Scientific inquiry is a process scientists use to learn about the world around us.

Key Outcomes:

□ Students will understand how to **conduct a scientific investigation** by following a process of using inquiry skills to construct knowledge from the evidence collected.

Essential Knowledge and Skills:

In grades K-2, students will be able to:

- □ Plan a simple investigation.
- ☐ Use simple tools and equipment to gather data.
- ☐ Use data to construct reasonable explanations.
- □ Communicate their findings and give explanations.

In grades 3–5, students will be able to:

- ☐ Ask questions and form a hypothesis that can be answered by a scientific investigation.
- ☐ Plan and carry out scientific investigations.
- ☐ Use appropriate tools and techniques to gather, analyze and interpret data.
- Develop descriptions, explanations, predictions and models based on evidence.
- ☐ Think critically and logically to discover the relationship between evidence and their explanation.