# **Homeschool Science in Early Elementary**

How do I start teaching science to my kids? This is a very different answer if your kids are K-2 than if they are a bit older. Here are some of the science topics you might want to consider if your kids are in early elementary:

# **Homeschool Den Minute: Video Episode 1**

**5 Senses** – sight, hearing, touch, feel, taste (This could continue on into a unit on the human body.)

- taste activities,
- <u>smell matching</u>,
- sound bingo

**Animals/Zoology:** Some zoology topics you could cover:

- living and non-living (and the characteristics of living things),
- vertebrates-invertebrates,
- the 5 classes of animals: animals and their characteristics, (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals)
- <u>Animal Packet</u> (classification, domestic vs. wild animals, animal tracks, etc.)
- Invertebrates: <u>Hands-On Study of Earthworms</u>, <u>Planaria</u> (a type of flatworm that regenerates), <u>Mealworms</u> (that turn into darkling beetles)
- Amphibian Mini-Unit: Frog Life Cycle, Amphibians; animals of the world,
- Nocturnal and Diurnal Animals (we also talked about what makes day and night)
- the parts of the animal,
- animals and their babies,
- <u>animals and their group names</u>
- animals and their biomes (such as the rain forest, desert, <u>forest</u>),
   (<u>we did a study of the biomes here</u> arctic, tundra, deciduous forest, boreal forest, rain forest, deserts, etc.)

- animal tracks,
- where do animals live?
- Where do things come from?
- above ground-below ground,
- ocean animals: Ocean Unit Freebies Layers of the Ocean
   School of Fish Activity Ocean Animals and Their Groups
   Whale Unit (and the Arctic) Icebergs, Blubber experiment,
   Buoyancy and more Whale Unit Migration, Echolocation,
   Baleen vs. Toothed Whales
- Whale Unit How salt water affect buoyancy Drawing whales and dolphins
- Unit on Dinosaurs,
- Unit on Birds

## Plants/Botany

- parts of plants,
- parts of a flower,
- plant life cycles germinating seeds,
- <u>fruits and vegetables</u> (free sorting cards here),
- plant nutrition (colored carnations and slurping celery)
- Rainforest Plants s (from around the world),
- Plants and Symmetry;
- Vascular vs. Non-Vascular Plants
- 2 types of roots: fibrous roots (like grass) and taproots (like carrots)
- Carnivorous Plants Lapbook
- Where does my food come from?

## Homeschool Den Minute: Video Episode 2

# **Simple Machines**

- Lever, wheel and axle, ramp, screw, pulleys, wedge
- Simple Machine Packet

#### **Rocks and Minerals**

- Sedimentary, Igneous, Metamorphic Rocks
- Rock Cycle
- Rocks and Minerals Packet
- 3 Types of Rocks worksheets

#### **Earth Science**

- Layers of the Earth
- Plate movement
- Volcanoes,
- Earthquakes
- Earth Science Packet

## **Human Body**

- the five senses: taste activities, smell matching, sound bingo
- the bones of the body (This post has various PreK-K ideas),
- (we also did tons of other activities about <u>how blood circulates</u> and <u>how food is digested</u> that my youngest really enjoyed with my older kids.

# **Simple Machines:**

• Simple Machines Packet (About 30 pages)



- Simple Machines Unit: Hands-On Activities on Levers
- wedges
- screws (including the Archimedes screw)
- pulleys probably the kids' favorite day!
- wheel and axel

## **Geology:**

We have a free Rocks and Minerals Packet. The first part of the packet was made specifically for my daughter who was 4 at the time: Free Rocks and Minerals Packet geology topics: Earth's layers, mountain formation, volcanoes, rocks and minerals, natural disasters I shared some of our hands-on activities in these posts (some were done when my kids were in preschool, other when they were older... but most of our activities would be fun at any age!)

Three Types of Rocks: Igneous,
 Sedimentary and Metamorphic Rock
 Packet - the kids loved these activities
 because they involved chocolate!!



- Igneous Rock Activities
- Sedimentary Rock Activities
- Sedimentary Rock Activity (much older post, using sand)
- Metamorphic Rock Activities

- Metamorphic Rock Activity (another older post, where we took "core samples," excavated and examined this baked rock a cupcake!)
- Minerals: Our Hands-On Activities and Seeing the BIGGEST Diamond in the World
- Earth-Space Science: Topographic Maps

# **Earth Science posts:**

- <u>Learning about the Solar System</u> Including the hands-on kit the kids loved assembling and painting.
- <u>Earth Science: Timeline of Earth Activity</u> A Montessori activity that is meant to impress kids with the enormity of time on Earth.
- Earth Science: Layers of the Earth hands-on Activity
- <u>Earth's Geologic Timeline</u> How scientists divide Earth's history into eons and eras
- Learning about Latitude and Longitude, Using a Compass
- Earth Science: Plate Movement Hands-On Activities
- Earth Science: Layers of the Atmosphere
- Free Earth Science Packet: Layers of the Atmosphere
- Earth Science: Layers of the Earth Hands-On Activity
- Earth Science: Plate Movements, Pangea
- Plate Movement and Earthquakes
- Earth Science: Plate Movements and Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Mountain Making
- Earth Science: How Fold Mountains are Formed
- Topographic Maps
- World Biomes Pin Map
- Preschool Geography and More Preschool Geography Activities

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