

In action

Our teachers integrate science into their lessons in creative ways.

Brave Butterflies



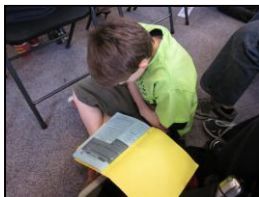
Grade 1 students are amazed to see the transformation of their caterpillars into beautiful monarch butterflies.

Salmon Study



Grades 2 and 3 raise salmon from eggs to fry. They learn about salmon biology as well as cultural traditions.

Environmental Mind Grind



Grades 4 and 5 test their knowledge of environmental sciences in a Jeopardy-style competition.

Science Fair



Grades 6 and 7 organize a science fair. Students in all grades team up to prepare and display experiments at this highly anticipated event.

Get involved

Support from parents and members of the community is welcomed and will make our program stronger. We encourage you to contact the school and share your ideas.



Parent and community involvement is important to our success.

Contact Information

For more information about the Science Focus or Okanagan Falls Elementary, please contact:

Lisa McCall
Okanagan Falls Elementary
(250) 497-5414
lmccall@sd53.bc.ca



Okanagan Falls Elementary

A Science Focus School

Our philosophy

Kids in elementary school are naturally curious which makes it the perfect time to get kids interested in science. Science education fuels that curiosity and provides children with valuable ideas, analytical skills, and even potential future career choices.

This was the reason behind the decision to transform Okanagan Falls to a science focus school – to provide our students with a solid base that will uniquely prepare them to thrive in their technology-driven world.

Our goal is to use the science focus to enhance the delivery of our core instruction in reading, writing and mathematics. Our hope is to use students' natural interest in science and technology to more effectively deliver our entire curriculum.

Lisa McCall
Principal

Garry Sutherland
Volunteer Science Program Coordinator

Sam Hancheroff
Volunteer Science Program Coordinator



Our program

Read on to learn how our school is creating a science focus.

1. Make it hands-on

At the heart of our science program is our science lab. The lab will house experiments and demonstrations aligned with the curriculum to give our students opportunities for hands-on learning. Today, our lab is filled with displays studying the human body and the solar system and is equipped with microscopes, telescopes, Van Graff simulators, and beakers.



Princess is a hamster in the Kindergarten class.

2. Integrate technology

Technology is an important part of our science focus. More than providing basic computer skills, our goal is to integrate technology across the curriculum to enhance the learning process. Technology is used to actively engage the students in their lessons, encourage participation in groups, increase the interaction between student

and teacher and in the future, enable connections to real world experts.

3. Form partnerships

The Bert Edwards Science and Technology School in Kamloops has blazed a trail with the creation of the first science focus school in British Columbia. At the core of their highly successful program is the BIG Little Science Centre (www.blsc.org) which features 120 plus hands-on stations. Okanagan Falls is affiliated with the centre giving our students access to their extensive science resources.



Photo compliments of the Big Little Science Centre.

4. Engage experts

Studies show that bringing in outside experts stimulates learning and engagement. Our science program is drawing on the extensive pool of local experts in the fields of geology and geophysics, astronomy, biology and ecology.