

Adolescent Community Curriculum Map

Science Occupations

Science Occupations are project-based science classes in which students learn scientific concepts through hands-on learning. For many topics we look at issues through the lens of a problem or issue that affects our school, community, or region. Emphasis is placed on the application of adult-like scientific practice in order to make an authentic and meaningful contribution.

Students at Nature's Way have the opportunity to learn about core concept areas and have the opportunity to delve deeper into a related topic of interest to them. The courses also emphasize interdisciplinary skills that will be valuable in later educational settings such as note taking, conducting scientific experiments, working in teams, and scientific writing.

Science occupations occur in four-week cycles. The course offerings incorporate several disciplines, such as studying chemistry through soapmaking or cell biology by caring for chickens. The table below, "Curriculum Map: At a Glance," shows examples of specific topics of study. (*Note: Specific course offerings are subject to change.) Each cycle of study has a life, earth, or physical science as the core emphasis. Students at Nature's Way will take a minimum of four (4) life sciences, one (1) earth science, and three (3) physical sciences. This structure also acknowledges the curricular requirements suggested by the Tennessee Department of Education.



Adolescent Community Curriculum Map
The Curriculum Map: At a Glance*

Academic Year A			
Cycle One: Cell Biology (L)	Cycle Two: Forces in Nature (P)	Cycle Three: Chemistry (P)	Cycle Four: Ecology (L)
-Food! -Chickens -Winter Gardening -Bugs	-Natural Energy -Alternative Energy -Machines and Electricity -Wind and Water	-Soil Chemistry -Food Preservation -Water -Soap making	-Invasive Species -Ecosystem Services -Spring Ecology

Academic Year B			
Cycle One: Genetics and Reproduction (L)	Cycle Two: Earth Studies (E)	Cycle Three: Motion (P)	Cycle Four: Ecology (L)
-Garden Genetics -Bees -Human Development -Crickets	-Appalachian Geology -Climatology -Ecological Mapping -Fracking	- Rube Goldberg and Reality -Bicycles -Structures	- Amphibians -Organic Gardening -Woodlot Ecology

(L) Refers to a class with a core emphasis on life science.
(P) Refers to a class with a core emphasis on physical science.
(E) Refers to a class with a core emphasis on earth science.

(*Note: Specific course offerings are subject to change. The above courses are examples of classes that have been or could be offered.)