

Grade Two

There are four science units in grade 2. They are Seed to Seed, Life in Balance: Fast Plants and Butterflies, Beyond the Earth, and The Ramp Kit. The two major themes are found in the second-grade science units are cycles and forces (push, pull, gravity and friction). Seed to seed begins with seed observations and collecting to determine ways seeds travel. This unit builds on the seed to plant investigations in the grade 1 unit Windowsill Gardens. Students notice the pattern of day and night and use models to investigate what happens in space to cause this cycle, they collect data on moon phases for a month to notice a pattern and cycle, and the life cycles of the Painted Lady and Butterfly Wisconsin Fast Plants/ Cabbage White Butterfly cycle including dependence and reproduction. The idea of gravity is introduced in the Beyond the Earth unit and the Ramp Kit. In the Ramp Kit students work cooperatively and carry out quantitative investigations with ramps and vehicles. They make changes in variables of ramp height, ramp surface and car weight. Each time students change one variable, they test the change in the distance a car travels three times and record their measurements - collect data. Their collected data is graphed and the graphs are analyzed by the class to come up with conclusions on what happens when the variable is changes.

