Nature of Science grades K - 3

Developed jointly by IBM and the Children's Television Workshop, the Nature of Science emphasizes "doing science" through inquiry, investigation, and communication.

> While teaching science processes and content, the Nature of Science reinforces students' reading, writing and mathematics skills.

You've seen the excitement and interest that students have on a field trip...

Wouldn't you like to capture that natural curiosity and bring it into your classroom?

With the **Nature of Science** your students can dive the reefs of the Virgin Islands or wander the trails of the Great Smoky Mountains without having to leave the classroom. As they encounter these diverse environments, your children will begin to ask questions and draw conclusions. Unlike the field trip, which ends when they board the bus, the **Nature of Science** extends their curiosity and excitement as they explore the variety of resources provided. Like scientists in the field, your students will use basic scientific processes such as observation, comparison, investigation, and communication to relate what they have learned to other environments as well as other areas of the curriculum.

Using full-motion video and sound, the **Visit** presents 'virtual field trips' where students have the ability to choose direction, pace and what information they'll gather along with pictures to document their trip. Each 'Visit' presents students with a new objective such as, "How do animals protect themselves?" as well as new and exciting information giving them ample opportunity to examine the wide variety of living things in their environment.

The **Guide**, a rich database presented in a field guide format with sounds and drawings, photographs and animations, encourages children to explore, research and write about what they've seen and heard. Through their many experiences with the 'Visit' and the 'Guide database' as well as what they have learned from other center activities, students compile all that they have learned in the '*Guide Workshop'* to create a 'Field Guide' with text and graphics. This Field Guide can be viewed electronically or printed to be shared with parents and other students and can be used as a means of assessment.

The **Nature of Science**, developed to address state and national initiatives, provides a curriculum that builds on, reshapes and reinforces the knowledge that children already

have about the natural world. Using a constructivist approach, students develop their thinking and problem solving skills by asking questions, looking for answers, collecting information and drawing conclusions.

The **Teacher's Guide** provides lesson plans that support the use of classroom centers - the Visit Center, the Guide Center, a Science Corner, a Lab Center and a Library Corner - where students can explore concepts in a variety of modalities. These centers are supported through lesson plans

as well as reproducible masters for a 'Student Science Sourcebook'. The Teacher's Guide also includes integration ideas to build language arts, math, social science and art skills as well as ideas for classroom management, assessment, and home/school connections.

The Nature of Science uses an instructional model where students **explore** the world around them, **develop** explanations that are meaningful and **apply** their understanding to new situations.



At the Seashore

Through the Woods Grades K-1

Filmed in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee, Through the Woods introduces young students to the basic principles of science as they learn about the varied life of the forest. By engaging their senses and learning through observation and comparison they learn that the living world is extremely diverse but that living things have much in common.

At the Seashore

Grades 2 - 3

Filmed both on land and under water at St. Johns National Park in the Virgin Islands, At the Seashore introduces students to the diversity of seashore life. As they investigate this rich natural world, they develop careful observation and inquiry habits and deepen their understanding of animals' relationships to their environments. At the Seashore focuses on diversity of habitat, structure, function and adaptation of organisms.

Another Instructional Solution From:



Nature of Science