



## Mystery Science Alignment with British Columbia's Science Curriculum

### Mystery Science - British Columbia's Science Curriculum

Mystery Science aligns to British Columbia's Science Curriculum. Each lesson (exploration & activity) is designed to take one hour per week. Mini-lessons are 5-minute videos that answer K-5 student questions and can be used as a jumping off point to engage learners for a full lesson planned by the teacher.

**Lesson Extensions.** Extensions are available for each lesson and offer an opportunity for students to continue their science content learning. They include assessments and a curated collection of additional activity suggestions, online resources, project ideas, and readings to help extend the learning.

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# Kindergarten

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Plants and animals have observable features.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>basic needs of plants and animals</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Plant &amp; Animal Secrets</a>	Grade K	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Why do woodpeckers peck wood? <b>Lesson 2, Read-along:</b> Where do animals live? <b>Lesson 3:</b> How can you find animals in the woods? <b>Lesson 4, Read-along:</b> How do animals make their homes in the forest? <b>Lesson 5:</b> How do plants and trees grow? <b>Lesson 6, Read-along:</b> Why would you want an old log in your backyard?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adaptations of local plants and animals</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>local First Peoples uses of plants and animals</li> </ul>			
Humans interact with matter every day through familiar materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>properties of familiar materials</li> </ul>			



## Kindergarten, continued

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
The motion of objects depend on their properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>effects of pushes/pulls on movement</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Force Olympics</a>	Grade K	<b>Lesson 1:</b> What's the biggest excavator? <b>Lesson 2, Read-along:</b> Why do builders need so many big machines?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>effects of size, shape, and materials on movement</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Force Olympics</a>	Grade K	<b>Lesson 3:</b> How can you knock down a wall made of concrete? <b>Lesson 4, Read-along:</b> How can you knock down the most bowling pins? <b>Lesson 5:</b> How can we protect a mountain town from falling rocks? <b>Lesson 6, Read-along:</b> How could you invent a trap?
Daily and seasonal changes affect all living things.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>weather changes</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Weather Watching</a>	Grade K	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Have you ever watched a storm? <b>Lesson 2, Read-along:</b> How can you get ready for a big storm? <b>Lesson 3:</b> What will the weather be like on your birthday? <b>Lesson 4, Read-along:</b> How do you know what to wear for the weather?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>seasonal changes</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>living things make changes to accommodate daily and seasonal changes</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>		<b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why do bears hibernate?** <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Where do bugs go in winter? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why do animals come back after going to warm places in winter?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First People's knowledge of seasonal changes</li> </ul>			



# Grade 1

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Living things have features and behaviours that help them survive in their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>classification</b> of living and non-living things</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>names</b> of local plants and animals</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>structural features</b> of living thing in the local environment</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Plant &amp; Animal Superpowers</a>	Grade 1	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Why do birds have beaks? <b>Lesson 2, read-along:</b> Why do baby ducks follow their mother? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Why are polar bears white? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Why don't trees blow down in the wind? <b>Lesson 6, Read-along:</b> What do sunflowers do when you're not looking?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>behavioral adaptations</b> of animals in the local environment</li> </ul>		Grade 2	<b>Lesson 1:</b> How did a tree travel halfway around the world? <b>Lesson 2:</b> Could a plant survive without light? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Why do trees grow so tall? <b>Lesson 4:</b> Should you water a cactus? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Where do plants grow best?
Matter is useful because of its properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>specific properties</b> of materials allow us to use them in different ways</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Material Magic</a>	Grade 2	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Why do we wear clothes?



## Grade 1, continued

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Light and sound can be produced and their properties can be changed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>natural and artificial <b>sources of light</b> and <b>sound</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Lights &amp; Sounds</a>	Grade 1	<b>Lesson 1:</b> How do they make silly sounds in cartoons? <b>Lesson 2, Read-along:</b> Where do sounds come from? <b>Lesson 3:</b> What if there were no windows? <b>Lesson 4, Read-along:</b> Can you see in the dark? <b>Lesson 5:</b> How could you send a secret message to someone far away? <b>Lesson 6, Read-along:</b> How do boats find their way in the fog?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>properties of light</b> and <b>sound</b> depend on their source and the objects with which they interact</li> </ul>			
Observable patterns and cycles occur in the local sky and landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>common objects in the sky</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Spinning Sky</a>	Grade 1	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Could a statue's shadow move? <b>Lesson 2, Read-along:</b> What does your shadow do when you're not looking? <b>Lesson 3:</b> How can the Sun help you if you're lost? <b>Lesson 4, Read-along:</b> Why do you have to go to bed early in the summer? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Why do the stars come out at night? <b>Lesson 6, Read-along:</b> How can stars help you if you get lost?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>local patterns</b> that occur on Earth and in the sky</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The knowledge of the First Peoples:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- shared First Peoples knowledge of the sky</li> <li>- <b>local First Peoples</b> knowledge of the local landscape, plants, and animals</li> <li>- local First Peoples understanding and use of <b>seasonal rounds</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>			



# Grade 2

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Living things have life cycles defined by their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>metamorphic and non-metamorphic life cycles of different organisms</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Power of Flowers</a>	Grade 3	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Why do plants grow flowers? <b>Lesson 2:</b> Why do plants give us fruit? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Why are some apples red and some green? <b>Lesson 4:</b> How could you make the biggest fruit in the world?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>similarities between offspring and parent</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Plant &amp; Animal Superpowers</a>	Grade 1	<b>Lesson 4, Read-along:</b> Why do family members look alike?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Peoples use of their knowledge of life cycles</li> </ul>			
Materials can be changed through physical and chemical processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>physical ways of changing materials</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Material Magic</a>	Grade 2	<b>Lesson 4:</b> What materials might be invented in the future? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Could you build a house out of paper?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>chemical ways of changing materials</li> </ul>			





## Grade 2, continued

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Forces influence the motion of an object.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>types of <b>forces</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Invisible Forces</a>	Grade 3	<p><b>Lesson 1:</b> How could you win a tug-of-war against a bunch of adults?</p> <p><b>Lesson 2:</b> What makes bridges so strong?</p> <p><b>Lesson 3:</b> How can you go faster down a slide?</p> <p><b>Lesson 4:</b> What can magnets do?</p> <p><b>Lesson 5:</b> How can you unlock a door using a magnet?</p>
Water is essential to all living things, and it cycles through the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>water sources</b> including local watersheds</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Work of Water</a>	Grade 2	<p><b>Lesson 1:</b> If you floated down a river, where would you end up?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>water conservation</b></li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the <b>water cycle</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Stormy Skies</a>	Grade 3	<p><b>Lesson 1:</b> Where do clouds come from?</p> <p><b>Lesson 2:</b> How can we predict when it's going to storm?</p> <p><b>Lesson 4:</b> How can you keep a house from blowing away in a windstorm?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local First People's knowledge of water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- water cycles</li> <li>- conservation</li> <li>- <b>connection to other systems</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>			



# Grade 3

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Living things are diverse, can be grouped, and interact in their ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>biodiversity in the local environment</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Animal Adventures</a>  <a href="#">Animals Through Time</a>	Grade 2  Grade 3	<b>Lesson 1:</b> How many different kinds of animals are there? <b>Lesson 2:</b> Why do frogs say "ribbit?" <b>Lesson 3:</b> How could you get more birds to visit a bird feeder?  <b>Lesson 1:</b> Where can you find whales in a desert? <b>Lesson 2:</b> How do we know what dinosaurs looked like? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Can you outrun a dinosaur? <b>Lesson 4:</b> What kinds of animals might there be in the future? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Can selection happen without people? <b>Lesson 6:</b> Why do dogs wag their tails? <b>Lesson 7:</b> What's the best way to get rid of mosquitoes? <b>Lesson 8:</b> How long can people (and animals) survive in outer space?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the knowledge of the First Peoples of ecosystems</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>energy is needed for life</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Web of Life</a> *	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Why would a hawk move to New York City? <b>Lesson 2:</b> What do plants eat? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Where do fallen leaves go? <b>Lesson 4:</b> Do worms really eat dirt? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Why do you have to clean a fish tank by not a pond? <b>Lesson 6:</b> Why did the dinosaurs go extinct?

\*[Web of Life](#) was originally designed for Grade 5, but can be taught in Grade 3 with modifications. Expect elements of this unit to be advanced for Grade 3.





## Grade 3, continued

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
All matter is made of particles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>matter is anything that has mass and takes up space</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Chemical Magic*</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 4:</b> What do fireworks, rubber, and Silly Putty have in common? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Why do some things explode?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>atoms are building blocks of matter</li> </ul>			
Thermal energy can be produced and transferred.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sources of thermal energy</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Weather Watching**</a>	Grade 3	<b>Lesson 5:</b> How could you warm up a frozen playground? <b>Lesson 6, Read-along:</b> How could you walk barefoot across hot pavement without burning your feet?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>transfer of thermal energy</li> </ul>			
Wind, water, and ice change the shape of the land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>major local <b>landforms</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>		<b>Mini-lesson:</b> Could a mountain turn into a volcano?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>local First Peoples knowledge of local landforms</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>observable changes in the local environment caused by erosion and deposition by wind, water, and ice</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Work of Water</a>	Grade 2	<b>Lesson 2:</b> Why is there sand at the beach? <b>Lesson 3:</b> What's strong enough to make a canyon? <b>Lesson 4:</b> How can you stop a landslide?



# Grade 4

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
All living things sense and respond to their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sensing and responding:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- humans</li> <li>- other animals</li> <li>- plants</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="#">Human Machine</a>  <a href="#">Waves of Sound</a>	Grade 4  Grade 4	<b>Lesson 2:</b> What do people who are blind see? <b>Lesson 3:</b> How can some animals see in the dark?  <b>Lesson 1:</b> How far can a whisper travel? <b>Lesson 2:</b> What would happen if you screamed in outer space? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Why are some sounds high and some sounds low?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>biomes</b> as large regions with similar environmental features</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Stormy Skies</a>	Grade 3	<b>Lesson 3:</b> Why are some places always hot?
Matter has mass, takes up space, and can change phase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>phases of matter</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Material Magic</a>  <a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>	Grade 2	<b>Lesson 2:</b> Can you really fry an egg on a hot sidewalk? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Why are so many toys made out of plastic?  <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Can you make lava?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the effect of temperature on particle movement</li> </ul>			



## Grade 4, continued

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Energy can be transformed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>energy:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- has <b>various forms</b></li> <li>- is <b>conserved</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="#">Energizing Everything</a>	Grade 4	<b>Lesson 1:</b> How is your body similar to a car? <b>Lesson 2:</b> What makes roller coasters go so fast? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Why is the first hill of a roller coaster always the highest?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>devices that transform energy</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Energizing Everything</a>	Grade 4	<b>Lesson 6:</b> What if there were no electricity? <b>Lesson 7:</b> How long did it take to travel across the country before cars and planes? <b>Lesson 8:</b> Where does energy come from?
The motions of Earth and the moon cause observable patterns that affect living and non-living systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>local changes caused by <b>Earth's axis, rotation, and orbit</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Spaceship Earth</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 1:</b> How fast does the Earth spin? <b>Lesson 2:</b> Who set the first clock? <b>Lesson 3:</b> How can the Sun tell you the season? <b>Lesson 4:</b> Why do the stars change with the seasons? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Why does the Moon change shape?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the effects of the relative positions of the sun, moon, and Earth including local First Peoples perspectives</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>		<b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why do places have different times? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> How often do eclipses happen? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> What is the Moon made of? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why does the Moon turn blood red during a lunar eclipse?



# Grade 5

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Multicellular organisms have organ systems that enable them to survive and interact with their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>basic structures and functions of body systems:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- digestive</li> <li>- musculo-skeletal</li> <li>- respiratory</li> <li>- circulatory</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="#">Human Machine</a>  <a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>	Grade 4	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Why do your biceps bulge?  <b>Mini-lesson:</b> What would happen if you didn't have a skull? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why do our skeletons have so many bones? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> How does your heart pump blood? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why do we get hiccups? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why do we need blood?
Solutions are homogeneous.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>solutions and solubility</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Chemical Magic</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Are magic potions real? <b>Lesson 2:</b> Could you transform something worthless into gold? <b>Lesson 3:</b> What would happen if you drank a glass of acid?



## Grade 5, continued

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Machines are devices that transfer force and energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>properties of <b>simple machines</b> and their <b>force effects</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Energizing Everything</a>	Grade 4	<b>Lesson 4:</b> Could you knock down a building using only dominoes? <b>Lesson 5:</b> Can you build a chain reaction machine?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>machines:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constructed</li> <li>- found in nature</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>power</b> - the rate at which energy is transferred</li> </ul>			
Earth materials change as they move through the rock cycle and can be used as natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the rock cycle</li> </ul>	<a href="#">The Birth of Rocks</a>	Grade 4	<b>Lesson 1:</b> Could a volcano pop up where you live? <b>Lesson 2:</b> Why do some volcanoes explode? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Will a mountain last forever? <b>Lesson 4:</b> How could you survive a landslide?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>local types of <b>earth materials</b></li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Peoples concepts of <b>interconnectedness</b> in the environment</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the nature of sustainable practices around BC's resources</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Watery Planet</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 1:</b> How much water is in the world? <b>Lesson 2:</b> When you turn on the faucet, where does the water come from? <b>Lesson 3:</b> Can we make it rain? <b>Lesson 4:</b> How can you save a town from a hurricane?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Peoples knowledge of sustainable practices</li> </ul>			





# Grade 6

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Big Idea	BC Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit	Mystery Science Grade	Mystery Science Lessons
Multicellular organisms rely on internal systems to survive, reproduce, and interact with their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>basic structures and functions of body systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- excretory</li> <li>- reproductive</li> <li>- hormonal</li> <li>- nervous</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="#">Human Machine</a>	Grade 4	<b>Lesson 4:</b> How does your brain control your body?
Everyday materials are often mixtures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>heterogeneous mixtures</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mixtures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- separated using a difference in component properties</li> <li>- local First Peoples knowledge of separation and extraction methods</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			



## Grade 6, continued

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Big Idea	British Columbia Content Learning Standard <i>Students are expected to know the following:</i>	Mystery Science Unit		Mystery Science Lessons
Newton's three laws of motion describe the relationship between force and motion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newton's three laws of motion</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>effects of <b>balanced and unbalanced forces</b> in daily physical activities</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>force of gravity</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">Spaceship Earth</a>  <a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 7:</b> Why is gravity different on other planets?  <b>Mini-lesson:</b> What is a black hole?
The solar system is part of the Milky Way, which is one of billions of galaxies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the overall scale, structure, and age of the universe</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Spaceship Earth</a>  <a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 8:</b> Could there be life on other planets?  <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Are aliens real?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the position, motion, and <b>components of our solar system</b> in our galaxy.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Spaceship Earth</a>  <a href="#">Mini-lessons</a>	Grade 5	<b>Lesson 6:</b> What are the wandering stars?  <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Is Earth the only planet with life? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Is Pluto a planet? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Why isn't Pluto a (major) planet anymore? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> What causes the Northern Lights? <b>Mini-lesson:</b> Has a shooting star ever landed on someone?