

UPDATE

This year we will focus on Social Studies or Science one unit at a time. We are starting this school year off with our first Science unit titled How Can Animals Use Their Senses to Communicate.

In this 15 lesson unit, students will investigate how animals, including humans, use their internal and external structures to sense the world around them, process information, communicate information to others, and react accordingly.

In the first focus question, students explore the senses, including how light travels when we see an object. They compare animal eyes and analyze how their structures support different survival needs.

In the second focus question, students explore how the brain processes information through experiencing optical illusions and analyzing data from research into how birds can learn to avoid distasteful insects.



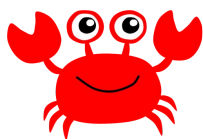
In the third focus question, students will put what they have learned together to investigate how animals can communicate with each other using a variety of signals. They will compare how often live fiddler crabs communicate using claw-waving in social and nonsocial contexts.

In the fourth focus question, students consider problems in communication. They discover that nightingales sing louder in noisy urban environments, and explore how humans can communicate over great distances in very little time using digital signals.

In a written assessment, students model the interactions when a cat sees a mouse. For the Science Challenge, students analyze data based on testing with models to construct an argument about which firefly flash patterns would be most effective for finding a mate.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
~Mrs. Ryan



Room 115
Email: sryan@opschools.org

