



METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING NATURAL SCIENCE TO 6TH GRADE STUDENTS THROUGH INTEGRATED LESSONS

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Abstract: This article explores the methodology of teaching natural science to 6th grade students through integrated lessons. The study emphasizes the importance of combining multiple scientific disciplines to enhance students' understanding, engagement, and practical skills. Integrated lessons allow learners to connect concepts across biology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science, promoting critical thinking, problem-solving, and interdisciplinary knowledge. The article discusses strategies for implementing integrated lessons, including project-based learning, collaborative activities, and hands-on experiments, highlighting their pedagogical benefits in developing core competencies and scientific literacy in young learners.

Keywords: Natural science, 6th grade, integrated lessons, interdisciplinary learning, critical thinking, problem-solving, student engagement, project-based learning, innovative pedagogy.

Teaching natural science to 6th grade students requires approaches that not only convey theoretical knowledge but also foster practical skills, critical thinking, and an understanding of the interconnections between scientific disciplines. Integrated lessons provide an effective methodology for achieving these goals, as they combine content from multiple subjects such as biology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science into cohesive learning experiences.

Through integrated lessons, students are encouraged to explore natural phenomena from different perspectives, make connections between concepts, and apply knowledge in real-world contexts. For example, a lesson on ecosystems may incorporate biology concepts of plant and animal interactions, physics principles of energy flow, and chemistry topics related to nutrient cycles. This interdisciplinary approach promotes a deeper understanding of scientific content while developing analytical and problem-solving skills.



In addition, integrated lessons enhance student engagement and motivation. Collaborative projects, hands-on experiments, and interactive activities encourage learners to participate actively, think creatively, and work as part of a team. By integrating multiple disciplines, students develop holistic scientific literacy, strengthen their ability to analyze complex problems, and cultivate competencies that are essential for future academic and professional success.

Overall, implementing integrated natural science lessons in the 6th grade supports the development of core competencies, fosters interdisciplinary understanding, and prepares students for higher-level scientific studies. This methodology provides a practical and innovative approach to teaching, ensuring that students acquire both knowledge and essential skills for lifelong learning.

Teaching natural science to 6th grade students through integrated lessons provides an effective strategy for enhancing understanding, engagement, and practical skills. Integrated lessons combine content from multiple scientific disciplines, including biology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science, to create cohesive learning experiences. By connecting concepts across subjects, students develop a holistic understanding of natural phenomena and strengthen critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills.

One of the primary benefits of integrated lessons is that they allow students to see the interrelationships between scientific concepts. For example, studying the water cycle can involve biological aspects such as plant transpiration, physical principles like evaporation and condensation, and chemical components related to water composition and quality. By examining a single phenomenon from multiple perspectives, learners deepen their comprehension and are better able to apply knowledge in practical contexts. This interdisciplinary approach encourages students to make connections, recognize patterns, and understand the complexity of natural systems.

Hands-on experiments are central to integrated natural science lessons. Students actively participate in investigations that require them to formulate hypotheses, design procedures, manipulate variables, and analyze results. For instance, a lesson on energy transfer may include building simple circuits (physics), observing chemical reactions that produce energy (chemistry), and examining the effects of energy on living organisms (biology). Such activities promote scientific reasoning, critical analysis, and



evidence-based decision-making. By engaging in practical work, learners also develop fine motor skills, attention to detail, and methodological discipline.

Project-based learning is another key strategy in integrated lessons. Students may work on projects that address real-world problems, such as designing sustainable gardens, analyzing local water quality, or investigating the impact of human activities on ecosystems. These projects require learners to apply knowledge from multiple disciplines, collaborate effectively, and communicate findings clearly. Through group work, students develop teamwork, leadership, and interpersonal skills while also learning to negotiate, plan, and execute tasks efficiently. Collaborative projects foster peer learning and create a supportive environment for sharing ideas and exploring alternative solutions.

Integrating technology further enhances the effectiveness of natural science lessons. Digital simulations, virtual laboratories, and interactive models allow students to explore phenomena that may be difficult or unsafe to replicate physically. For example, learners can simulate climate changes, chemical reactions, or energy transformations, enabling them to visualize complex processes and test hypotheses in a safe environment. Technology also facilitates data collection, analysis, and presentation, strengthening digital literacy alongside scientific competencies. By combining traditional experiments with technological tools, students gain a comprehensive understanding of concepts and develop versatile skills for the modern world.

Creativity and innovation are fostered through integrated lessons. Students are encouraged to design experiments, create visual representations, and develop models that illustrate scientific principles. For example, learners might build a biome diorama, construct an energy-efficient device, or use art and digital tools to visualize data. These creative activities promote problem-solving, original thinking, and the ability to communicate scientific ideas effectively. Encouraging creativity also increases motivation and engagement, making learning more meaningful and enjoyable for students.

Reflection and self-assessment are essential components of integrated lessons. After completing experiments or projects, students are guided to evaluate their methods, analyze results, and consider improvements. Reflective practices strengthen metacognitive skills, enabling learners to monitor and assess their own progress, plan



strategies for future investigations, and take responsibility for learning outcomes. Self-assessment promotes independence, critical thinking, and continuous improvement, preparing students for higher-level studies and lifelong learning.

Interdisciplinary learning through integrated lessons also prepares students for complex problem-solving. By tackling challenges that require knowledge from multiple disciplines, learners develop the ability to analyze situations from different angles, make informed decisions, and propose innovative solutions. For example, addressing environmental pollution involves understanding chemical processes, biological impacts, physical phenomena, and technological solutions. This holistic approach equips students with the skills necessary to navigate real-world problems and fosters a sense of responsibility toward society and the environment.

Assessment in integrated lessons emphasizes both the learning process and the outcomes. Teachers evaluate students on the accuracy of their results, the creativity of their approaches, collaborative skills, and the ability to reflect on and improve their work. Formative assessment, including peer feedback and self-reflection, encourages active engagement and continuous learning. By focusing on multiple dimensions of competency development, educators support the growth of well-rounded learners who are capable of applying knowledge practically, thinking critically, and innovating creatively.

Overall, teaching natural science through integrated lessons in the 6th grade provides a dynamic and effective pedagogical approach. By combining multiple disciplines, incorporating hands-on experiments, encouraging collaboration, integrating technology, and fostering creativity, educators can enhance students' understanding of natural phenomena and develop core competencies essential for academic success and lifelong learning. Integrated lessons create meaningful, engaging, and interdisciplinary learning experiences, preparing students to become analytical, innovative, and competent thinkers capable of addressing complex scientific and real-world challenges.

Teaching natural science to 6th grade students through integrated lessons is an effective methodology for developing core competencies, critical thinking, and practical skills. By combining concepts from biology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science, educators provide students with opportunities to explore scientific phenomena holistically, apply theoretical knowledge in real-world contexts,



and develop problem-solving and analytical abilities. Hands-on experiments, project-based activities, and collaborative work foster creativity, teamwork, and communication, while integrating technology enhances visualization, experimentation, and data analysis skills.

Integrated lessons also promote reflective thinking and independent learning, encouraging students to evaluate methods, analyze results, and propose improvements. This interdisciplinary approach not only strengthens scientific understanding but also nurtures motivation, engagement, and lifelong learning. Overall, implementing integrated natural science lessons equips students with the knowledge, skills, and mindset necessary to succeed academically and prepares them to address complex scientific and societal challenges effectively.

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