

Contents

Science as a Tool for Making Sense of the World.....	10
The TPS Philosophy of Learning Science	11
Our Research-Based Approach to Curriculum Design	12
The California Department of Education: Content Standards and Curriculum Framework.....	14
Ways to Help Your Child Meet Success in Science.....	17
A. Science as a New Addition to the Family	17
B. Science as Food-for-Thought.....	18
C. Literacy as a Tool for Learning Science	18
D. Channels of Communication Between School and Home.....	19
E. Homework Tips	19
F. Test Preparation.....	20
Understanding the Student Edition.....	20
A. A Letter to Student	20
B. The Learning Standards	21
C. The Literacy Component.....	21
D. Key Words.....	22
E. Focus Questions.....	23
F. Investigations	24
G. Visual Aids	24
H. Review Sections	25
I. Test Practice Questions.....	26
Background Information for Parents: Understanding Content	26
A. Physical Sciences.....	27
B. Life Sciences (Energy and Matter).....	28
C. Life Sciences (Living and Nonliving Things).....	29
D. Earth Sciences (Rocks and Minerals)	30
E. Earth Sciences (Erosion and Weathering).....	30
F. Investigation and Experimentation	31
Modeling Life-long Learning.....	32
Your Child's Performance in School: Interpreting Assessments.....	32
A. Science Report Card	33
B. Reflecting on My Experiences in Science.....	34
C. Tests.....	37
D. Achievement Grid.....	37
E. Writing Rubrics	37
Helping Your Child Understand the Components of Success	39
Resources for Parents and Students.....	39