Science Philosophy

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 I believe that all students need to be exposed to science curriculum as much as possible. Science happens all around us and the students need to be aware of that and need to know how science impacts their lives. Because of this, I hope to expose my students to the concepts that are outlined in the Next Generation Science Standards for my grade.

 I agree with Lynn Rankin’s (2011) statement, “there’s no substitute for giving students – at every grade level – the opportunity to experience full inquiries, or scientific investigations where they have the opportunity to use all the process skills and have some ownership of the process of investigation” (p. 9). I think that all students need to be exposed, even at the lower elementary grades, to science. They can start out with simple investigations like do plants need water to grow and then move on to more complex inquires as they enter the upper elementary grades and high school grades. As they have the opportunity to carry out these investigations, they will be exposed to scientific concepts and will be able to take more responsibility of investigating science concepts at a deeper or higher level.

 I also believe that some students need to conduct hands on activities in order to learn. Science is a great way to accomplish this as scientific experiments are all hands-on activities. Because of this, students will hopefully learn the concepts at a deeper level and be able to apply this learning to everyday life.

 Even though science is a subject that is not taught daily, I want to be sure that my students have as much science curriculum exposure as possible. I hope to do scientific investigations where they can pose scientific questions (appropriate for their grade level) and carry out the process of inquiry to become better scientific investigators.

References

Rankin, L. (2011, February). Pathways to inquiry. *Science and Children*, 8-9.