

SIXTH GRADE SCIENCE  
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION SCHOOL  
MRS. JONES



Sixth grade is the first year to have a specific focus for Science class, **Earth Science**. This includes plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes. Students will investigate earth's dynamic and changing surface through erosion, deposition, rivers, and glaciers. Also included in Earth Science are ecosystems, biomes and ecology. It is during this unit that we dissect those owl pellets! Additionally, energy and resources are also a part of this curriculum. If time permits, we will again look at weather and climate change from this new perspective.

The curriculum at Our Lady of the Assumption has always been aligned with the Diocesan Curriculum Standards as well as with input from the local high schools that OLA students attend. The goal is to meet standards and have the students well prepared for high school Science. Hopefully they will have some fun as well.

The textbook for the sixth grade is: Focus on California Earth Science from Prentice – Hall. In this text there are many additional resources throughout each chapter that can be accessed online for review, reinforcement and enrichment. In addition the textbook can be downloaded onto a MP3 player at the website: [www.californiascience.com](http://www.californiascience.com) . All Diocesan Standards are met with these texts.

Whenever possible we will have “hands on” work. Different units are more conducive to this type of work than others. We will continue learning about the scientific method and writing a proper lab report. We will continue working on the application of scientific principles, not just simply memorizing facts.

The sixth grade Science field trip will be a visit to the Yolo Basin Foundation, Discover the Flyway program. We will be going on this field trip in May.