

Live from McDonald Observatory
Science TEKS Grades 6 - 8

Grade 6

Scientific Inquiry

2. The student uses scientific inquiry methods during field and laboratory investigations.

*B. collect information by observing and measuring.

*C. organize, analyze, and interpret information to construct reasonable explanations from direct and indirect evidence.

*D. communicate valid conclusions.

Students participate in a guided inquiry videoconferencing session about telescopes at McDonald Observatory and characteristics of the Sun.

Tools and Technology

4. The student knows how to use a variety of tools and methods to conduct science inquiry.

*A. collect and analyze information using tools: cameras and computers.

Students are collecting and analyzing data (digital images) from McDonald Observatory solar telescopes via videoconference. In a sense, this is remote observing.

Solar System

*13. The student knows components of our solar system.

A. identify characteristics of objects in our solar system **including** the Sun, planets, meteorites, comets, asteroids, and moons.

Students study and observe characteristics of the Sun.

Grade 8

Scientific Inquiry

2. The student uses scientific inquiry methods during field and laboratory investigations.

*B. collect information by observing and measuring.

*C. organize, analyze, and interpret information to construct reasonable explanations from direct and indirect evidence.

*D. communicate valid conclusions.

Students participate in a guide inquiry video conferencing session about telescopes at McDonald Observatory and characteristics of the Sun.

Tools and Technology

4. The student knows how to use a variety of tools and methods to conduct science inquiry.

*A. collect and analyze information using tools: cameras and computers.

*B. extrapolate from collected information to make predictions.

Students are collecting and analyzing data (digital images) from McDonald Observatory solar telescopes via videoconference. In a sense, this is remote observing.

Atomic Structure

8. The student knows that matter is composed of atoms.

*A. describe the structure and parts of an atom.

*B. identify the properties of an atom **including** mass and electric charge.

Students observe light emitted by H-alpha transitions and the behavior of a plasma.

The Universe

13. The student knows characteristics of the universe.

*A. describe characteristics of the universe **such as** stars and galaxies.

The Sun is a star.