**6th Grade Science Course Syllabus**

**Cedar International School**

**2010-2011**

**Unit 1 – The Scientific Method**

 We will explore Science and how it is properly conducted as our first unit of study. Skills learned during this unit will be used continuously through the remainder of your education. The Scientific Method will be studied, culminating in a group Science Fair project. Lab reports will be introduced.

**Unit 2 – Biology**

 Biology is the study of Life. As an introduction to Biology, we will begin by exploring the diversity of life on Earth. The kingdoms of life will be studied, which will naturally lead towards an investigation of the methods through which organisms differentiate. We will wrap up our Biology Unit with a series of classes on Cells, the smallest units of life on Earth.

**Unit 3 – Natural Resources**

 We will classify natural resources and investigate the processes that allowed for the formation of these resources. Sources of energy will be explored, including fossil fuels and various ‘green’ energy alternatives. A case study involving a proposed copper mine and Pacific Salmon fishery in Alaska will be used to illuminate a connection to the real world.

**Unit 4 – Chemistry**

 Students will explore the four states of matter and the physical changes that take place as matter changes from one state to another. These are prerequisite skills for future chemistry investigations.

**Unit 5 – Astronomy**

 Students will explore our place in the Cosmos. The composition, scale and exploration of the known Universe, beginning with our Solar System and ending at the very limits of current human knowledge will be investigated.