



Early Childhood & Lower School Science Teacher (Pre-K–5th Grade)

At Topeka Collegiate, everything we do is rooted in our commitment to developing **confident, compassionate, and intellectually curious learners**. Our students arrive each day eager to explore, question, and make meaning of the world around them. Through a rigorous and relevant academic program grounded in experiential learning, we cultivate **critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and a strong sense of personal responsibility**.

We are seeking an innovative and dynamic **Science Teacher for Early Childhood and Lower School (Pre-K–5th Grade)** who will inspire curiosity, foster discovery, and build a strong foundation in scientific thinking. This educator will have the opportunity to design and lead a cohesive, hands-on science program that encourages students to ask questions, investigate real-world phenomena, and develop a lifelong love of learning.

Position Overview

The Early Childhood & Lower School Science Teacher serves as both an educator and program builder—leading engaging, developmentally appropriate science instruction while helping shape a vertically aligned science experience from Pre-K through 5th grade.

This role emphasizes **inquiry-based learning, interdisciplinary connections, and experiential education**, supporting students as they explore scientific concepts through observation, experimentation, and creative problem-solving.

Key Attributes

The ideal candidate is:

- A **curious and creative educator** who brings energy and innovation to science instruction
- A **collaborative partner** who works closely with classroom teachers to integrate science across disciplines
- A **champion of experiential learning**, designing hands-on, inquiry-driven experiences
- A **relationship-centered educator** who builds strong connections with students, families, and colleagues
- A **lifelong learner** who models flexibility, reflection, and intellectual curiosity
- A **community builder** who fosters belonging and ensures all students feel seen, valued, and capable

Responsibilities

Instruction & Program Development

- Design and deliver engaging, developmentally appropriate science instruction for students in **Pre-K through 5th grade**
- Maintain a **cohesive, vertically aligned science curriculum** that builds foundational knowledge and skills across grade levels
- Implement **inquiry-based and experiential learning practices**, encouraging observation, questioning, experimentation, and reflection
- Integrate science with other disciplines (literacy, math, social studies, and the arts) to support **deep, connected learning**
- Incorporate elements of **STEM/STEAM**, including problem-solving, design thinking, and real-world application
- Develop learning experiences that promote:
 - Depth of knowledge and complexity
 - Abstract reasoning and problem-solving
 - Student-driven inquiry and research
 - Use formative assessment and observation to **extend learning beyond grade-level standards**



Collaboration & Integration

- Partner with classroom teachers to **design interdisciplinary units and projects**
- Support the integration of science into broader classroom themes and experiences
- Collaborate on school-wide initiatives that promote **innovation, sustainability, and student engagement**

Student Experience & Culture

- Create a classroom environment that **promotes curiosity, risk-taking, and joy in learning**
- Differentiate instruction to meet the needs of **diverse and highly capable learners**
- Foster **student agency**, encouraging independence, exploration, and ownership of learning
- Contribute to a school culture grounded in **respect, responsibility, and belonging**

Professional Engagement

- Embrace and actively support Topeka Collegiate's **mission, values, and educational philosophy**
- Participate in **professional development, faculty collaboration, and school initiatives**
- Engage with the broader school community through events, committees, and family communication
- Model professionalism consistent with school expectations and leadership standards

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Education, **Science, or a related field (Master's degree preferred)**
- Teaching experience in **early childhood and/or elementary education**
- Demonstrated success with **inquiry-based, project-based, or experiential learning models**
- Strong understanding of **child development across Pre-K through elementary grades**
- Ability to design and implement **hands-on, engaging science experiences**
- Excellent **communication, collaboration, and interpersonal skills**
- Commitment to fostering an inclusive environment that values **diversity, belonging, and student voice**
- Able to integrate **technology and innovation tools** to enhance learning