



**St. James the Greater School** utilizes two approaches for teaching science – **DASH Science** for grades K-6 and **FAST Science** for grades 7 & 8. Both approaches were formulated at the Curriculum Research and Development Group.

## ***DASH Science – Grades K-6***

DASH = **D**evelopmental **A**pproaches in **S**cience, **H**ealth & Technology. DASH is an integrated, sequential, comprehensive, inquiry-based program that begins with basic concepts, makes practical connections, and crosses subject areas.

DASH activities are organized into 10 clusters at each grade level:

- Learning
- Time, weather, and sky
- Animals
- Plants
- Food and nutrition
- Health and Safety
- Wayfinding and transportation
- Energy and communication
- Conservation, recycling and decomposition
- Matter, space, and construction

In each activity, students build an understanding of basic concepts and skills and create a real product as evidence of what they learn. Every grade has a teaching guide with activities for students, support materials for teachers, and sections for families.

## ***FAST Science – Grades 7 & 8***

FAST = **F**oundational **A**pproaches in **S**cience **T**eaching. FAST is a physical science, ecology, and science & society program for grades 7 & 8. FAST is designed both to develop understanding of the environmental concerns of our technological society and to provide the foundational tools for further study in the sciences.

FAST is organized into:

- *FAST1* – The Local Environment
- *FAST2* – Matter and Energy in the Biosphere
- *FAST3* – Change over Time
- (Content in each program is organized into physical science, ecology, and the interrelationships and interactions of science and society)

The principal objectives of the program are to develop thinking skills, laboratory skills, and a working knowledge of the foundational concepts of science.