**5th Grade Science Curriculum for Students with APD**

By L.Malone (copywrited. For personal use only, not to be redistributed to others without express consent from author).

**Key Strategies:**

 **Visual Supports**: Use diagrams, charts, and pictures to reinforce learning, ensuring instructions are clear and easy to follow.

 **Written Instructions**: Provide step-by-step written or visual guides alongside verbal instructions to reduce confusion and reliance on auditory input.

 **Hands-on Learning**: Incorporate practical experiments and activities to engage multiple senses and reduce the dependency on verbal instructions.

 **Minimize Auditory Overload**: Break down complex auditory information into smaller, more manageable chunks, using pauses and repetition as needed.

**Weeks 1-2**

* **Focus**: Introduction to Ecosystems
* **Activity**: Build a detailed model of an ecosystem with different organisms
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual aids and written guides to explain ecosystem components

**Weeks 3-4**

* **Focus**: Life Cycles of Plants and Animals
* **Activity**: Observe and document the life cycles of various organisms
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual life cycle charts and written observation logs

**Weeks 5-6**

* **Focus**: Energy in Ecosystems
* **Activity**: Create a food web diagram to illustrate energy flow
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual diagrams and written explanations

**Weeks 7-8**

* **Focus**: Weather and Climate Patterns
* **Activity**: Create a weather journal with charts and graphs
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual tracking tools and written data analysis instructions

**Weeks 9-10**

* **Focus**: Human Impact on the Environment
* **Activity**: Research and present on how human activities affect ecosystems
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual aids and written research guidelines

**Weeks 11-12**

* **Focus**: Properties of Matter
* **Activity**: Conduct experiments to explore physical and chemical properties
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual guides and written procedures

**Weeks 13-14**

* **Focus**: Introduction to Cells
* **Activity**: Build a model of a cell and label its parts
* **Key Strategy**: Provide diagrams and written descriptions of cell structures

**Weeks 15-16**

* **Focus**: Plant Adaptations
* **Activity**: Observe and record plant adaptations to different environments
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual aids and written observation logs

**Weeks 17-18**

* **Focus**: Forces and Motion
* **Activity**: Explore forces using hands-on experiments with friction and gravity
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual aids and written guides for experiments

**Weeks 19-20**

* **Focus**: The Solar System
* **Activity**: Create a scale model of the solar system
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual diagrams and written instructions

**Weeks 21-22**

* **Focus**: Sound and Light
* **Activity**: Conduct experiments with sound waves and light refraction
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual aids and written explanations

**Weeks 23-24**

* **Focus**: Environmental Conservation
* **Activity**: Research and present on conservation efforts and their impact
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual aids and written research guides

**Weeks 25-26**

* **Focus**: Review and Project
* **Activity**: Develop a final project incorporating ecosystems, weather patterns, and energy concepts
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual examples and a detailed rubric for the project