

Eighth Grade Science

In grade 8, the study of science includes planning and conducting laboratory investigations using the scientific method, analyzing data, critical-thinking and using tools, such as microscopes, electronic scales, and lab equipment. Students also use computers and technology to support scientific investigations. The primary focus of science is the chemical and physical nature of matter.

As students learn science skills, they identify the roles of both human activities and natural events in altering Earth systems. Students in the eighth grade will examine the chemical building blocks and their interactions. Students will be introduced to matter and its properties, specifically the elements and periodic table, naming chemical formulas, balancing chemical equations and describing the interactions between energy and matter. They will investigate the transfer of energy. Material is presented to include the history and nature of science and to develop a social perspective of science.

Students will also explore the concepts of electricity, magnetism, sound and light. Students will discover the workings of electrical charges and currents in regards to series and parallel circuits. This will be tied into the study of magnetism and the generation of power. In their study of sound and light, students will investigate the wave characteristics of both sound and light in addition to the concepts of reflection refraction using lenses.