



Center Middle School Course Syllabus

8th Grade Science

Course Description & Overview	Textbook or Curriculum Source	Assessments for Course
8th Grade Science focuses on a comprehensive study of the natural world, encompassing physical science, life science, and Earth and space science with an emphasis on scientific investigation and problem solving.	Students will use <i>HMH Into Science</i> , which offers a digital-first approach to learning science, focusing on engaging students with real-world phenomena and scientific practices. This program utilizes videos to introduce anchor phenomena, followed by student-driven investigations that incorporate hands-on activities, interactive simulations, and various learning experiences.	Students will be expected to complete a mid-9week assessment and end of 9week assessment for all four 9week grading periods, in addition to a pre-test and the Science STAAR test in April.

Course Content by Grading Period

1st Grading Period	Matter & Energy, Chemical Reactions, Force and Motion, Waves
2nd Grading Period	Waves, Plate Tectonics, Universe and Astronomy, Tides and Seasons
3rd Grading Period	Weather, Climate Change, Ecosystems, Cells
4th Grading Period	Cells, Genes & Traits, Project-Based Learning

Grading Policy

In determining the 9-week average, a minimum of 15 grades from different assignments or components of major projects must be recorded. When calculating a nine-week average, NO ONE ASSIGNMENT GRADE MAY COUNT MORE THAN 20% OF THE TOTAL AVERAGE, regardless of the grade category. Some major projects and writing samples may comprise more than one component and each component should be graded separately. In determining the nine-week average, grades will be divided into 2 categories and each category will count a designated percentage to determine student's grade. The 2 categories are; Assessments/Major Grade – Assessments, Performance Assessments, Major Projects/Papers will count TWICE Quizzes/Daily Work- will count one time Semester Average shall be determined by the following: Nine Weeks 1/2 Nine Weeks 1/2

