

8th Grade Physical Science Syllabus

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will:

- 1) explore the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science;
- 2) use standard safety practices;
- 3) analyze data and follow scientific explanations;
- 4) use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating equipment and materials in scientific activities;
- 5) use the ideas of system, model, change, and scale in exploring scientific and technological matters;
- 6) communicate scientific ideas and activities clearly;
- 7) question scientific claims and arguments effectively; and
- 8) see the connections between science and other disciplines.

Our science program is designed to address the following 8th grade Georgia Standards of Excellence:

S8P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the structure and properties of matter.

S8P2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the law of conservation of energy to develop arguments that energy can transform from one form to another within a system.

S8P3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about cause and effect relationships between force, mass, and the motion of objects.

S8P4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to support the claim that electromagnetic (light) waves behave differently than mechanical (sound) waves.

S8P5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about gravity, electricity, and magnetism as major forces acting in nature.

For more details, visit -

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Eighth-Grade-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

Student Responsibilities:

Each student will show respect to all teaching staff and fellow students.

Each student will be seated with all materials, ready to begin, when the bell rings.

Each student will follow all school rules.

Each student will write EQs, homework assignments, and upcoming due dates in the agenda.

Materials Needed: Students must bring the following materials to class each day:

- Notebook Paper
- Highlighter
- Notebook
- Science Workbook
- Pencils and Pens (black or dark blue)
- Colored Pencils
- Student Agenda
- Dry Erase Marker

Science Notebook:

Students will be responsible for keeping a notebook which will include labs, activities, and notes. Notebooks will be collected periodically and graded.

Homework:

Students will be assigned homework each week. Homework assignments give students the extra practice needed to become proficient in the concept we are studying. Students are encouraged to use notes and examples taken in class to aid in the completion of homework.

***Science Explorer Textbook:** will be available in class.

Grading Scale:

Category	Percentage of Grade
Summative: Unit Tests/Projects/ Writing Assignments	50%
Formative: Daily Grades, Quizzes, Lab Activities, Notebooks, etc.	30%
Benchmark Exam	20%

Attendance Excused Absence Policy:

Students who are granted “**Excused Absence**” status for days missed will be subject to the following:

- **All pre-assigned work is due on the day of a student’s return from an absence.** For example, if a student is absent on the day of a test/quiz and no new material has been presented, the student is expected to be prepared to take the test/quiz on the day they return to school. If a student misses the day before a scheduled test and no new material is presented, the student is expected to make up the test at its regularly scheduled time.
- For **assignments which did not have a pre-assigned due date during the time of the student’s absence**, students will be given five days to arrange for makeup work or follow other arrangements granted by the teacher.

Teacher Email Addresses:

Christy Coffey - christy.coffey@bufordcityschools.org

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Websites: Please check website periodically for updates. (Access your teacher’s website through the BMS website (<http://www.bufordms.org>)→BMS Teams tab→8th Grade)