

Centerview Elementary

8th Grade Science

2026-2027 Syllabus

Part 1: Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: Pam Holt

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Course Description: The academic standards for seventh grade establish the content knowledge and skills for Tennessee students necessary to prepare them for the rigorous levels of higher education and future job markets. The course provides students with a wealth of experiences for both science practices and content knowledge. The academic standards for science in eighth grade are research-based and supported by the National Research Council's Framework for K-12 Science Education. The academic standards herein establish the core content and practices of science and engineering, as well as what Tennessee students need to know by the end of seventh grade.

Course Texts and Resources: The teacher will supply any required texts or resources throughout the year. Textbooks are part of a classroom set and can only be taken home if checked out.

Course Structure: Lecture, discussion, drill and practice, laboratory experiments, and group investigations.

Online Resources:

Tennessee State Academic Standards for Science:

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/massivemeetingsfolder/meetingfiles4/10-20-17_III_J_Non-Substantive_Changes_to_Math_ELA_Science_Standards_Attachment_3_-_Science.pdf

Cocke County Schools Website: <https://cockecountyschools.org/>

Part 2: Student Learning Outcomes

(Link to standards)

- https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/massivemeetingsfolder/meetingfiles4/10-20-17_III_J_Non-Substantive_Changes_to_Math_ELA_Science_Standards_Attachment_3_-_Science.pdf
- EIGHTH GRADE: ACADEMIC STANDARDS
- 8.PS1: Matter and Its Interactions
- 8.PS2: Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions
- 8.PS4: Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer
- 8.ETS1: Engineering Design
- 8.LS4: Biological Change: Unity and Diversity
- 8.ESS1: Earth's Place in the Universe
- 8.ESS2: Earth's Systems
- 8.ESS3: Earth and Human Activity
- 8.ETS2: Links Among Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

You will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

- Daily class participation, note-taking, and online activities
- Quizzes and chapter tests
- Models representing standards based topics
- Experiments representing standards based topics

Part 3: Topic Outline/Schedule

1st 9 weeks

Topic	Assignments and Projects
Modeling Matter	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments
Electricity and Magnetism	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments
Force and Motion	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments

2nd 9 weeks

Topic	Assignments and Projects
Mechanical and Electromagnetics Waves	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments
Changes in Life Forms	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments
Natural Selection and Adaptation	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments

3rd 9 weeks

Topic	Assignments and Projects
The Universe	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments
Earth's Changes Over Time	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments
Natural Hazards	Various assignments, quizzes, chapter assessments, unit assessments

4th 9 weeks

Topic	Assignments and Projects
TCAP Test Prep and Practice Tests	

Part 4: Grading Policy

A -----90-100

B-----80-89

C-----70-79

D-----60-70

F-----0-59

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the Aspen Grade Book:

<https://sis-cocke-county.tnk12.gov/aspen/logon.do>

You will use the same username and password from the previous year.

Plagiarism

According to Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition: Plagiarism is defined as “presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased.” This includes but is not limited to: Copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work; Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source; Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source; Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator.

Consequences of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accept a letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents are to be involved in making this decision.

Religion in the Classroom

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion - and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Religious themes may be a part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The inclusion of religion shall be for educational purposes only;
3. The emphasis on religious themes should be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of the curriculum. Such studies shall never be used to proselytize, establish, foster, or demean any particular religion, religious tenets, or beliefs; and¹
4. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated.

Student Testing Code of Ethics and Security

It is important for you as a student to know that the following guidelines are to be strictly followed. This year the TNReady test will count at least 10% of your final semester grade. Your work on this test is very important and it deserves your best effort.

I understand that during testing on the days of the assessment, I am responsible for:

- Not having any electronic devices on me or in my purse/backpack/pockets
 - Including but not limited to cell phones, smart phones, smart watches, etc. **during testing or during breaks.**
 - Best practice is for students to leave devices at home or in their lockers on the day of testing.
 - If I am caught with a device during testing or during breaks, my test may be nullified, resulting in a zero as at least 10% of my final semester grade, and any school level disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Trying my best on the test
 - If I do not attempt to test (I give **no answers or randomly answer** questions) my test score may be nullified, resulting in a zero as at least 10% of my final semester grade, and any school level disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the administration.
 - The testing administrators and proctors in the testing environment will determine if no answers or random answering is taking place.