



# 7th Grade Science Instructional Plan: Fall Semester

## Course Overview

Welcome to 7th grade Science.

## Contact Information

Teacher Name: Helen Mccoy

Email: helen.mccoy@midlandisd.net

Phone: 432-240-4700

## Classroom Expectations

**Be Respectful** – Listen. Use kind words. Treat everyone and everything with care.

**Be Responsible** – Be on time. Bring what you need. Start bellwork immediately.

**Follow Directions** – Do what's asked the first time. Raise your hand to speak.

**Stay Focused** – Sit where you're supposed to. Keep your area tidy. Participate.

**Stay Positive** – Try your best. Learn from mistakes. Keep growing.

## Attendance Policy & Its Importance

### Attendance Is the First Step to Success

Coming to school every day ensures every student gets the instruction, connections, and support they need to learn, belong, and grow. Missing just a few days can create gaps in learning—but showing up builds confidence, community, and a path toward long-term achievement.

**Please notify the school if your child will be absent.** Frequent or extended absences may make it more difficult for your child to learn necessary foundational skills that ensure student success this year and in future school years.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of the first semester, students will be able to:

### TEKS

#### 7th Grade Science – TEKS Overview

#### Core Domains & Key Expectations

Strongly rooted in interdisciplinary science, the 7th-grade TEKS cover the following domains:

##### 1. Scientific Investigation & Reasoning

- Engage in descriptive, comparative, and experimental investigations
- Practice scientific questioning, use of tools, data collection, and modeling



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## 2. Matter & Its Properties

- Distinguish between elements and compounds
- Utilize the periodic table for identifying atoms
- Describe physical and chemical changes, aqueous solutions, and factors affecting dissolution rates

## 3. Force, Motion, & Energy

- Calculate average speed and differentiate speed vs. velocity
- Interpret motion via distance-time graphs
- Understand the impact of balanced/unbalanced forces (e.g. Newton's First Law)

## 4. Thermal Energy

- Investigate conduction, convection, and radiation in thermal energy transfer
- Explain thermal equilibrium and the relationship between temperature and kinetic energy

## 5. Earth & Space Science

- Describe solar system bodies and their movement
- Understand gravity's governing role in the solar system
- Analyze Earth's characteristics that support life (e.g., atmosphere, water, distance from Sun)

## 6. Science, Technology & Society (Texas-Specific)

- Compare past and present technology usage
- Identify notable Texas figures in science and tech (e.g., Michael Dell, Howard Hughes Sr.)
- Examine the impact of scientific innovations on Texas (economically, politically, resource-wise) and interdependence at regional/global levels

## Course Resources

- Experience Science Student Activity Companion by SAVVAS

## Grading Policy



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*According to Midland ISD Grading Policy:*

[Student Handbook](#)

## **School-wide System of Communication**

Families can reach out by email, phone, or messages during school hours. We are to hear, to listen, to answer questions, and support you both.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning!

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**Please fill out the portion below and return this portion to your teacher.**

We acknowledge that we have read and that we understand the expectations in [grade level or course]. We agree to contact the teacher should we have any questions or concerns regarding this instructional plan.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_