

CFISD Aquatic Science Course Scope and Sequence (2026–2027)

Course Description

In Aquatic Science, students study the interactions of biotic and abiotic components in aquatic environments, including natural and human impacts on aquatic systems. Investigations and field work in this course may emphasize freshwater or marine aspects of aquatic science, depending primarily upon the natural resources available for study near the school. Students who complete Aquatic Science acquire knowledge about how the properties of water and fluid dynamics affect aquatic ecosystems and about a variety of aquatic systems. Students who complete Aquatic Science conduct investigations and observations of aquatic environments, work collaboratively with peers, and develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills: [Aquatic Science](#)

First Semester (80 Days)

1st Grading Period (Aug. 12 – Oct. 9, 2026)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 1	Influence of Water	Aug. 12 – Sept. 9, 2026	20
Unit 2	Aquatic Ecosystems	Sept. 10 – Oct. 9, 2026	21

2nd Grading Period (Oct. 19 – Dec. 18, 2026)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 3	Sources of Water	Oct. 19 – Nov. 6, 2026	14
Unit 4	Oceanography and Currents	Nov. 9 – Dec. 18, 2026	25

Second Semester (93 Days)

3rd Grading Period (Jan. 5 – Mar. 11, 2027)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 5	Climate and Weather	Jan. 5 – Feb. 2, 2027	23
Unit 6	Life Zones and Aquatic Plants	Feb. 8 – Mar. 11, 2027	23

4th Grading Period (Mar. 22 – May 27, 2026)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 7	Aquatic Vertebrates and Invertebrates	Mar. 22 – Apr. 21, 2027	22
Unit 8	Human Impacts	Apr. 22 – May 14, 2027	16
Unit 9	Aquatic Careers	May 17 – 27, 2027	9

**The length of each unit is a specific number of days, but it is understood that there is a range of +/- a day. The purpose of the flexibility is meant to allow teachers the opportunity to plan for the needs of their students and to accommodate re-teaching or review when necessary. If pre-assessment indicates student mastery could be obtained in a fewer number of days, the additional time could be used for extension or carried into the next unit.

Instructional Material(s):

National Geographic Oceanography: An Invitation to Marine Science

Garrison, Ellis

10th Edition © 2024