



Fourth Grade Instructional Plan for 4th Science: First Semester

Course Overview

4th grade science is designed to develop proficient scientists through an approach rooted in the science of reading. Students will build strong foundational skills in the science process, grow in scientific vocabulary, and comprehension while learning to read, analyze, and write about a variety of texts. Instruction will be explicit, systematic, and scaffolded to support all learners in mastering grade-level expectations.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Communicating scientific ideas clearly by questioning and analyzing
- classify and describe matter using observable physical properties, including temperature, mass, magnetism, relative density
- investigate and compare a variety of mixtures, including solutions that are composed of liquids in liquids and solids in liquids and demonstrate that matter is conserved when mixtures such as soil and water or oil and water are formed
- describe and illustrate the continuous movement of water above and on the surface of Earth through the water cycle and explain the role of the Sun as a major source of energy in this process
- differentiate between weather and climate
- identify and explain advantages and disadvantages of using Earth's renewable and nonrenewable natural resources such as wind, water, sunlight, plants, animals, coal, oil, and natural gas
- explain the critical role of energy resources to modern life and how conservation, disposal, and recycling of natural resources impact the environment
- determine the physical properties of rocks that allow Earth's natural resources to be stored there
- model and describe slow changes to Earth's surface caused by weathering, erosion, and deposition from water, wind, and ice
- collect and analyze data to identify sequences and predict patterns of change in seasons such as change in temperature and length of daylight
- collect and analyze data to identify sequences and predict patterns of change in the observable appearance of the Moon from Earth

Contact Information

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Classroom Expectations

Our classroom is a safe learning place, which encourages teamwork, positive feedback, and academic achievement. All students will be respectful to others. We will be good listeners to the teacher and to other's ideas. All students will be hard working contributors in the process of getting their education in order to be successful and reach their full potential.

Expectation 1: Be respectful

- Use appropriate voice level
- Raise your hand, and wait your turn to speak
- Listen to all instructions and directions
- Stay in your seat and wait for teacher permission

Expectation 2: Be responsible

- Complete all assigned tasks
- Be prepared: Have all necessary materials

Expectation 3: Be safe

- Always keep your hands and feet to self
- Walk at all times
- Report problems to an adult

Expectation 4: Be ready to learn and try your best every day

- Come to class on time
- Prioritize daily attendance

Positive reinforcement and clear routines will help students learn and meet these expectations.



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If expectations are not met, the teacher will first reteach and remind the student(s) of expectations. If a student continues to fail to meet expectations, they will be redirected, then parents will be contacted. If a student is unable to meet expectations after these preventative measures, an office referral will be made.

Attendance Policy & Its Importance

Regular attendance is vital to your child's academic development. Fourth grade is a pivotal year in Science - students move from observing to analyzing data. When students attend daily, they stay current with new skills, deepening their knowledge of the world, develop thinking skills, and practice important habits that support lifelong learning.

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:

Using SAVVAS and Science Penguin, students will develop scientific skills such as:

- Communicating scientific ideas clearly by questioning and analyzing
- classify and describe matter using observable physical properties, including temperature, mass, magnetism, relative density
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Course Resources

- Chromebook (provided by Midland ISD)
- Journals and writing utensils (part of the school supply list)
- SAVVAS
- Science Penguin
- LEGO Robotics

Grading Policy

In 4th grade, student proficiency will be determined using a traditional grading scale. A minimum of 1 grade per week will be assigned to English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Student proficiency shall be reported using a 100 point system as outlined below.

Letter Grade Numerical Grade	
A	100 – 90
B	89 – 80
C	79 – 70
D	69 – 60
F	59 and below



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The primary purpose of grades is to evaluate and provide feedback to students, parents/guardians, and teachers on relative mastery of state standards. Grades should be fair, timely, and actionable information which can be used for continued learning and improvement. Grades shall reflect the students' progress towards proficiency of grade level learning standards, called the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Teachers should use various indicators to monitor and assess student progress; however it is not required that grades be assigned every time progress is assessed and feedback given.

MAKE UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES

All students shall be allowed to make up work when they are absent from class. Students have the total number of school days absent plus one additional school day in which to complete the assignments. In certain circumstances where a prolonged illness or family emergencies are involved, an arrangement will be made between student and teacher for additional time to complete make-up work.

LATE & MISSING WORK

Missing assignments and grades earned below 70 are allowed to be corrected. These assignments will be given a two-week window. Any outstanding assignments after the two-week window will receive a final grade of 50. Any corrected work submitted within the two-week window will be assigned a maximum grade of 70.

Class DoJo (School-wide System of Communication) and Bonham Orange Folders

Our campus uses ClassDoJo to communicate with families. Please ensure you join our class for important updates. Orange Folders will go home daily to communicate with families. Please ensure you check and sign the folder daily.

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!