

8th Grade Science - Year at a Glance - 2026-2027

1st Nine Weeks	3rd Nine Weeks
9wk Start Date: 8/12/26 - 9wk End Date: 10/9/26 Unit 01: Investigating Properties of Matter (18 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.5A 8.5B 8.5C 8.5D 8.5E - Target Completion Date: Sept. 4, 2026 Checkpoint 1A: - TEKS Assessed: 8.5A, 8.5B, 8.5C, 8.5D, 8.5E - Window: Sept. 9-11, 2026 Unit 02: Investigating Chemical Reactions (16 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.6A 8.6B 8.6C - Target Completion Date: Sept. 30, 2026 Checkpoint 1B: - TEKS Assessed: 8.5A, 8.5C, 8.6A, 8.6B, 8.6C - Window: Oct. 5-9, 2026	9wk Start Date: 1/6/27 - 9wk End Date: 3/4/27 Unit 06: Plate Tectonics and Earth's Surface (14 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.9A 8.9B 8.9C - Target Completion Date: Jan. 19, 2027 Unit 07: Weather and Climate (16 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.10A 8.10B 8.10C - Target Completion Date: Feb. 10, 2027 Checkpoint 3A: - TEKS Assessed: 8.9A, 8.9B, 8.9C, 8.10A, 8.10B - Window: Feb. 1-5, 2027 Unit 08: Organisms, Environments, and Human Impact (28 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.11A 8.11B 8.11C - Target Completion Date: Mar. 31, 2027 Checkpoint 3B: - TEKS Assessed: 8.10A, 8.10B, 8.10C, 8.11A, 8.11B, 8.11C - Window: Mar. 1-4, 2027
2nd Nine Weeks	4th Nine Weeks
9wk Start Date: 10/14/26 - 9wk End Date: 12/17/26 Unit 03: Investigating Waves (15 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.7A 8.7B - Target Completion Date: Oct. 23, 2026 Unit 04: The Universe (16 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.8A 8.8B 8.8C 8.8D - Target Completion Date: Nov. 16, 2026 Checkpoint 2A: - TEKS Assessed: 8.6A, 8.7A, 8.7B, 8.8A, 8.8B - Window: Nov. 9-13, 2026 Unit 05: Earth's Systems: Sun, Earth, and Moon (12 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.7A 8.7B 8.7C - Target Completion Date: Dec. 10, 2026 Checkpoint 2B Fall Semester Final: - TEKS Assessed: 8.7A, 8.7B, 8.7C, 8.8A, 8.8B, 8.8C, 8.8D - Window: Dec. 14-17, 2026	9wk Start Date: 3/15/27 - 9wk End Date: 5/27/27 Unit 09: STAAR Review and Science Practices (12 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.1A 8.2A 8.3A 8.4A - Target Completion Date: Apr. 16, 2027 Checkpoint 4A: - TEKS Assessed: 8.5A, 8.6A, 8.7A, 8.8A, 8.9A, 8.10A, 8.11A - Window: Apr. 12-16, 2027 Unit 10: Post-STAAR: Science Applications and Enrichment (29 days) - TEKS in this Unit: 8.1A 8.2A 8.3A - Target Completion Date: May 27, 2027 Checkpoint 4B: - TEKS Assessed: 8.5A, 8.6A, 8.7A, 8.8A, 8.9A, 8.10A, 8.11A - Window: May 10-14, 2027

All TEKS Taught by March 31, 2027

8.1(A)	Ask questions and define problems — plan and safely conduct descriptive, comparative, and experimental investigations	8.1(B)	Use scientific practices to plan and conduct descriptive, comparative, and experimental investigations and use engineering practices to design solutions to problems
8.1(C)	Use appropriate safety equipment and practices during laboratory, classroom, and field investigations as outlined in TEA-approved safety standards	8.1(D)	Use appropriate tools such as graduated cylinders, metric rulers, balances, thermometers, microscopes, spring scales, satellite images, weather maps, and lab notebooks
8.1(E)	Collect quantitative data using SI units and qualitative data as evidence	8.1(F)	Construct appropriate tables, graphs, maps, and charts using repeated trials and means to organize data
8.1(G)	Develop and use models to represent phenomena, systems, processes, or solutions to engineering problems	8.1(H)	Distinguish between scientific hypotheses, theories, and laws
8.2(A)	Identify advantages and limitations of models such as their size, scale, properties, and materials	8.2(B)	Analyze data by identifying any significant descriptive statistical features, patterns, sources of error, or limitations
8.2(C)	Use mathematical calculations to assess quantitative relationships in data	8.2(D)	Evaluate experimental and engineering designs
8.3(A)	Develop explanations and communicate findings using evidence-based arguments	8.3(B)	Communicate explanations and solutions individually and collaboratively in a variety of settings and formats
8.3(C)	Engage respectfully in scientific argumentation using applied scientific explanations and empirical evidence	8.4(A)	Relate the impact of past and current research on scientific thought and society, including contributions of diverse scientists
8.4(B)	Investigate and explore careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)	8.4(C)	Research and explore resources such as museums, libraries, professional organizations, and mentors employed in a STEM field

Recurring Themes and Concepts (RTCs) — Grade 8

8.5(A)	Patterns — Identify and apply patterns to understand and connect scientific phenomena or to design solutions	8.5(B)	Cause and Effect — Identify and investigate cause-and-effect relationships to explain scientific phenomena or analyze problems
8.5(C)	Scale, Proportion, and Quantity — Examine and represent relationships in nature using scales, models, and quantities	8.5(D)	Systems and System Models — Examine and model natural and designed systems and their components
8.5(E)	Energy and Matter — Investigate and explain the flow of energy and cycling of matter in systems	8.5(F)	Structure and Function — Investigate and explain how the structures of objects or organisms relate to their functions
8.5(G)	Stability and Change — Analyze stability and conditions that affect change in systems and over time		

