

Edgemont

8th Grade Science 2024-2025 Syllabus

Part 1: Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: Mrs. Abigail Ottinger
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Aspen- Student grades and academic information is available throughout the year on Aspen, each student will get a handout with this password at the beginning of each year (if you have not reset your password).

Course Description

This course addresses Tennessee state standards and learning expectations of the TN Department of Education. Students will develop and demonstrate effective reading, language, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and problem-solving skills. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking skills such as evaluation, analysis, and synthesis. These skills are applied through research, independent reading, discussion, oral and creative interpretation, writing, small group cooperative learning, whole group discussion, and individual / group projects

Textbook & Course Materials

Provided Texts and Resources

- Integrated Science by Glencoe

Recommended Texts & Other Readings or Resources

- Other readings will be made available in the course packet, online, Google Classroom, MobiMax, or other sources.

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*Teacher will supply any required texts that will be used throughout the year. There is one class set provided, so students will not be bringing them home.

Course Structure

This class is a combination of lecture, discussion, and activity-based lessons.

Online Resources

- **TN State Standards for Science:**

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

- **Cocke County Schools Website:**

<http://www.cockecountyschools.org/>

- **Study Island:**

<https://www.studyisland.com/>

8th Science Part 2: Student Learning Outcomes

1st 9 Weeks

Forces and Motion

- 1- Design and conduct investigations on the relationships between magnetism and electricity in electromagnets, generators, and electric motors.
- 2- Provide evidence of an object's change in motion depends on the sum of all forces exerted on the object and describe that change in motion.
- 3- Evaluate and interpret that for every force exerted on an object there is an equal force exerted in the opposite direction.
- 4- Provide evidence that fields exist between objects even when they are not in contact.

Waves and Applications

- 1- Develop and use models to represent the basic properties of waves.
- 2- Compare and contrast mechanical waves and electromagnetic waves.
- 3- Evaluate the role that waves play in different communication systems.

Biological Change

- 1- Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record.
- 2- Compare and contrast structures of extinct and extant organisms.
- 3- Analyze evidence about how phenotypes within a population can increase the probability of survival and leads to adaptation.
- 4- Explain how natural selection plays a role in the survival of organisms.
- 5- Examine technology and communicate information about artificial selection and the inheritance of desired traits.

2nd 9 Weeks

Earth's Place in the Universe

- 1- Examine the theory of rapid expansion using evidence found in the universe.
- 2- Explain the role of gravity in the formation of the sun and planets in the solar system.

Earth's Systems

- 1- Analyze geographic changes that lead to population changes.

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- 2- Evaluate data collected from seismographs to study the interior of Earth.
- 3- Describe the relationship among processes and forces within the rock cycle.
- 4- Gather and evaluate evidence that energy from the Earth's interior drives physical changes.
- 5- Construct a scientific explanation using data that explains plate tectonics and its relevance to physical features on Earth.

3rd 9 Weeks

Earth and Human Activity

- 1- Interpret data to explain the location of Earth's natural resources.
- 2- Collect and use data to describe how plate boundaries relate to earthquake and volcano locations.

Engineering Design

- 1- Develop a model for testing and modification of an electromagnet, generator, or electric motor.
- 2- Research and communicate information on how data from technologies provide information about objects in our solar system and universe.

4th 9 Weeks

- 1- TCAP Review
- 2- Standards Review
- 3- Topic Remediation

Part 4: Grading Policy

Graded Course Activities

Assignments for details about each assignment listed below.

1 st 9 Weeks	
Points	Description
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bellringers● Participation/Note taking● Quizzes/Tests

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Standard based assessments
2nd 9 Weeks	
Points	Description
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bellringers● Participation/Note taking● Quizzes/Tests● Standard based assessments
3rd 9 Weeks	
Points	Description
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bellringers● Participation/Note taking● Quizzes/Tests● Standard based assessments
4th 9 Weeks	
Points	Description
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bellringers● Participation/Note taking● Quizzes/Tests● Standard based assessments

Late Work Policy

Students with an EXCUSED absence shall be provided the opportunity to receive assignments missed during the absence and allowed to make up the work for a full grade.

- **Makeup work must be requested by the student or parent no later than three days after returning to school.**
- **The work should be turned in at a mutually agreed time frame between the teacher and the student.**
- **The attendance record is not changed when missing work is completed.**

Viewing Grades in ASPEN

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the ASPEN Grade

Book. Click on the My Grades link on the left navigation to view your points.

Letter Grade Assignment

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100
B	85-92
C	75-84
D	70-74
F	0-69

Important note: For more information about grading for Cocke County Schools, visit the academic policies and grading section of the school system website

Part 5: Course Policies

Attend Class

Students are expected to attend all class sessions as listed on the course calendar.

- After 3 unexcused absences, an attendance letter will be sent home.

Participate

Participation will be monitored each day. Students will earn participation points by engaging in class discussion, taking daily notes, completing bell ringers and exit tickets, and participating in group activities.

Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that they can help you find a solution.

Complete Assignments

Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from the instructor *before the due date*. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student's grade.

Incomplete Policy

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if [*insert condition here]. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within [*insert timeframe here].

Academic Dishonesty Policy

This is an example only:

1. Academic dishonesty includes such things as cheating, inventing

false information or citations, plagiarism and helping someone else commit an act of academic dishonesty. It usually involves an attempt by a student to show possession of a level of knowledge or skill that he/she does not possess.

2. Teachers have the initial responsibility for detecting and dealing with academic dishonesty. Instructors who believe that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred are obligated to discuss the matter with the student(s) involved. Instructors should possess reasonable evidence of academic dishonesty. However, if circumstances prevent consultation with student(s), instructors may take whatever action (subject to student appeal) they deem appropriate.

3. Teachers who are convinced by the evidence that a student is guilty of academic dishonesty shall assign an appropriate academic penalty. If the teachers believe that the academic dishonesty reflects on the student's academic performance or the academic integrity in a course, the student's grade should be adversely affected. Suggested guidelines for appropriate actions are: an oral reprimand in cases where there is reasonable doubt that the student knew his/her action constituted academic dishonesty; a failing grade on the particular paper, project or examination where the act of dishonesty was unpremeditated, or where there were significant mitigating circumstances; a failing grade in the course where the dishonesty was premeditated or planned.

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.
 - I will focus and put forth effort on the test.
- Being honest and not cheating
 - If I am caught cheating (taking pictures of the test, writing down and passing answers, talking to other students, looking on other computers, using software outside the testing platform), 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.

Important Note: Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, may be reported to the office of student affairs.

Course policies are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be posted in the classroom.