



KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

8TH GRADE COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

Eighth Grade Science classes may include a variety of instructional formats ranging from hands on labs to lecture and discussion. Frequently students will be working cooperatively to accomplish larger projects. Occasionally supplemental videos will be used to enhance the learning experience. Students may be expected to keep a notebook with notes and vocabulary and participation in class activities is vital to your student's success.

Relevance

Science is the development of answers to questions through the use of observation, experimentation, and tested truths. Kenosha Unified 8th grade students will practice the skills required to open the door to the world of scientific research.

Course Standards

- A. Science Connections
- B. Nature of Scientific Process and Knowledge
- C. Science Inquiry
- D. Physical Science
- E. Earth Science
- F. Life Science
- G. Science Applications
- H. Science in Social and Personal Perspectives

Most essential benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Lifelong Learning Standards

- Knowledgeable person
- Effective communicator
- Quality producer
- Complex thinker
- Self-directed learner
- Contributing citizen

Lifelong learning benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Board-Approved Instructional Materials

Holt Science and Technology

Short Courses

- P. Introduction to Science
- C. Cells, Heredity, and Classification
- N. Electricity and Magnetism
- O. Sound and Light
- J. Astronomy
- L. Interactions of matter

Course Outline

Introduction to Grade 8 Science

- Classroom Expectations
- The Nature of Science
- Safety
- Connections Between Physical, Life, and Earth Science
- How to Use a Science Text Book

Cells, Heredity, and Classification

- Cells: The Basic Units of Life
- Heredity
- The Evolution of Living Things
- The History of Life on Earth

Electricity and Magnetism

- Introduction to Electricity
- Electromagnetism

Sound and Light

- The Energy of Waves
- The Nature of Sound
- The Nature of Light

Astronomy

- Studying Space
- Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe
- Formation of the Universe
- A Family of Planets

Interactions of Matter

- Chemical Bonding
- Chemical Reactions
- Chemical Compounds

Parents as Partners

Student textbooks and resources are available on the Holt-McDougal website at my.hrw.com. You will need a student username and password, which are provided by the classroom teacher. Grade level Standards and Benchmarks and additional resources are also available on the KUSD web site: www.kusd.edu.

Methods of Assessment

Assessments will be given in a variety of formats, which include but are not limited to: unit tests, labs, quizzes, and projects.

Board-Approved Grading Policy

Excerpts taken from School Board Rule 6452

GRADING SCALE

A+=98-100 percent	B+=86-89 percent	C+=76-79 percent	D+=66-69 percent
A=93-97 percent	B=83-85 percent	C=73-75 percent	D=63-65 percent
A-=90-92 percent	B-=80-82 percent	C-=70-72 percent	D-=60-62 percent
			F=0-59 percent

MAKE-UP WORK

Students submitting work up to ten school days late without prior approval may receive up to two grades lower on the work than they would have received if the work had been submitted on time (i.e., B+ lowered to a D+). Student work submitted after ten school days without prior approval shall not be accepted for credit and shall be recorded with a score of zero.

Upon returning to school after an absence, a student has the responsibility within the number of days equal to the length of the absence or suspension to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. A truant student has the responsibility on the first day he or she returns to the course/class to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. Lower grades may not be given for late work due to excused absences, suspension, or truancy unless the work is submitted later than agreed upon deadlines.

See Rule 6452 in its entirety at: www.kusd.edu.