

## Science Grade 8 Syllabus

This course will focus on earth and space science with an integration of chemistry, physics, and life science. The use of laboratory equipment, safety rules, measurement techniques, graphing, and interpretation of data will be stressed. The content that will be emphasized is environmental interactions, systems and structures, energy and changes over time. This course will show relevance to student learning and understanding of science.

### **Interactions within the Universe (73 instructional days)**

Activities in this unit focus on the structure and components of the universe and the cyclical nature and relationships that exist among these components. Major topics include chemistry, components of the universe, and components of the solar system. This unit culminates with a performance assessment where students develop a public educational tool aimed at dispelling common myths and misconceptions that exist about the universe.



### **Dynamic Earth (82 instructional days)**

Activities in this unit focus on understanding cycles, patterns, and natural geological events of the Earth. Major topics include weather, atmosphere, plate movement and topography. Students will explore physics and energy as they examine the relationships between force, motion, and energy and their impact upon organisms and their environments. This unit culminates with a performance assessment where students “discover” a hypothetical planet with characteristics similar to Earth and use their knowledge of weather and geologic processes to communicate information about the past, present, and future of this new planet.

