

## Science 8 Course Outline

Please read through the course outline. At the end, please collect the necessary signatures and submit the signed copy to the assignment dropbox.

If you have any questions about the course outline, please contact your teacher.

### Course Layout

This course is broken down as follows:

Unit	Topic
Preliminary Assignments	Course Outline About Me
1	Biology
2	Chemistry
3	Physics
4	Earth Science
Course Completion	Core Competency Reflection

### Assessment

At the end of the year, you will receive a Proficiency Assessment for the course. There are no percentages or letter grades given in this course.

Proficiency	Explanation
Extending	You have demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the concept and competency and/or broadened your learning beyond the expectations of this outcome. Your work is detailed and tidy and demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the learning outcomes.
Proficient	You have a complete understanding of the concept and competency. Your work is tidy and demonstrates the strategies used to solve the problems.
Developing	You have demonstrated a partial understanding of the concept and competencies.
Emerging	You have demonstrated an initial understanding of the concept and competency and require additional support to demonstrate understanding.

Each assignment, including the Learning Guides and the Inquiry Projects, will be marked on the proficiency scale. There is a rubric attached to each assignment.

Tests will be marked using a percentage.

Percentage	Proficiency Scale
86%+	Extending
73% - 85%	Proficient
60% - 72%	Developing
50% - 59%	Emerging
<50%	Additional Support Required and Retest

## Learning Guides

You are encouraged to complete the Learning Guide as you work through the lessons. When you have finished the lessons for this unit, you are encouraged to use the Learning Checks to verify your learning. A strong student will examine their mistakes and try to fix them to improve in their understanding.

Students who choose to submit to the learning checks will receive a work effort comment on their learning updates based on the rubric. Students who do not partake in this additional learning opportunity will receive the comment: This student did not review and reflect upon learning through guided self-assessment practices.

Be sure to keep your work neat and organized as you will be studying from the Learning Guide for the Unit Test. Communicate your ideas as well as you can and try not to skip any questions. If you need help with a question, please email your teacher for additional support.

## Inquiry Projects

Inquiry projects are designed for you to apply what learned to real life. Each unit has two inquiry projects:

- Inquiry Project 1: These are meant to be completed in under 2 hours. Students have multiple project choices to choose from.
- Inquiry Project 2: These are the largest components of each unit and provide opportunities for building scientific skills in STEAM. These inquiry projects will take approximately 5-10 hours to be done proficiently.

## Exam Supervision

There is a unit test at the end of each unit. There is a total of four unit tests. All exams are "closed book" and require supervision.

Your parent or guardian must:

- ensure the student has reviewed feedback for the learning guide and submitted the inquiry projects
- email the teacher at [Elixa.Neumann@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:Elixa.Neumann@burnabyschools.ca) for the passwords and indicate which unit your child is ready to write
- supervise your test-taking to ensure no additional notes or resources are used while taking the test.

You will only have one attempt at the unit test unless you receive a score of <50%. If this is the case, you may be asked to meet virtually with the teacher for additional assistance or demonstrate a fully completed learning guide before being allowed to attempt the unit test a second time.

## **Course Activity**

Students must be working to complete learning engagements on a regular basis. Students who are inactive after two weeks will receive an email to their Brightspace email program providing a warning of inactivity. Students who are inactive after 1 month may be withdrawn from the course. If a student is planning to be inactive due to personal reasons, they need to contact their teacher to inform them of the period of inactivity.

Students should aim to complete one unit every two months to finish the course within a 10-month period.

To finalize your registration in the course, you need to complete the Preliminary Assignments and Inquiry Project 1 – Biology within 30 days of your registration. You may be removed from the course if this has not been completed in time.

## **Contacting your Teacher**

The best way to communicate with your teacher is through the Brightspace Email program. To access the email program, click on the small envelope at the top right-hand corner of your screen, then click Email. This will direct you to the Brightspace Email program.

Students should be checking their Brightspace email program at least once a week.

Parents and Guardians can email your teacher at [Elixa.Neumann@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:Elixa.Neumann@burnabyschools.ca)

## **Resources**

There are NO textbooks required for this course. You do need a basic scientific calculator.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is unacceptable under any circumstance. You are expected to create authentic work which demonstrates your own understanding. If you are caught cheating, plagiarizing, or submitting AI-generated responses within this course, you may be removed from the course.

## **Keys to Success**

1. Actively work through each lesson: try examples and reflect on the materials.
2. Use the Learning Guide as your tool for documenting your understanding. Lay it out neatly and well organized.
3. Review feedback from your teacher before writing Unit Tests.
4. Use the message system for regular communication with your instructor.