

Parent Guide to Student Success

Rutherford County Schools is committed to providing high quality instruction anchored in the [Tennessee State Standards](#) using state adopted and board approved curriculum resources.

What to Expect in 8th Grade Science

The themes for science in 8th grade are how forces and motion drive objects in our solar systems, move lithospheric plates, and how nature's driving forces of geology impact ecosystems. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (i.e., STEM) integration is supported through developing models to generate data for ongoing testing and modifications of electromagnets, generators, and motors, as well as researching and communicating information to describe how data from technologies provide information about objects in the solar system and universe.



A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working On

- Developing a model to show how the direction of an object changes because of its position and forces.
- Investigating how an object's motion changes because of the forces on the object and the mass of the object.
- Explaining how fields exist between objects even though the objects are not in contact.
- Using models to represent the basic properties of waves including frequency, amplitude, wavelength, and speed.
- Researching and describing how technology and data provide information about objects in the solar system and universe.
- Mapping seismic data to show the locations of earthquakes and volcanoes and make predictions for future events.
- Using mathematical representations (e.g., statistical models) to support explanations of how natural selection may lead to increases and decreases of specific traits in populations over time.



Conversation Starters

With Students

- What are you learning about in your science class? Can you show me a sample?
- What observations have you made, investigations you have completed, or models you have drawn?
- What goals do you have for your science class? How can I help?

With Teachers

- Is my child meeting the expectations of this class? How can I keep track of their progress?
- How can I keep track of their progress and see if they have any missing assignments?
- What are some experiments we can do at home together?
- Is my child prepared for high school? How do you know?



Resources:

[TN State Standards](#) |