3rd Grade Science | School Year Instructional Plan

Course Overview	Third Grade Science is designed to engage students in exploring the natural world through observation, investigation, and hands-on learning experiences aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Throughout the year, students develop foundational scientific knowledge while strengthening critical thinking, inquiry, and problem-solving skills. Students explore four major strands: **Scientific and Engineering Practices**, **Matter and Energy**, **Force, Motion, and Energy**, **Earth and Space**, and **Organisms and Environments**. Emphasis is placed on asking questions, planning and conducting simple investigations, collecting and analyzing data, and communicating findings using appropriate scientific vocabulary.
Course Standards	3rd Grade TEKS
Instructional Materials	IDEA 3rd Grade Science Curriculum is the approved curriculum. Texas McGraw Hill textbook is used as a supplemental resource.

Year at a Glance

Unit 0 Safety and Science Journal Set Up
Unit 1: Investigating Properties of Matter
Unit 2: Investigating Force Motion and Energy
Unit 3: Earth and Space
Unit 4: Changes to Earth's Surface
Unit 5: Ecosystems, Food Chains, and Natural Disasters
Unit 6: Adaptations
Unit 7: Recycling Projects

Scope & Sequence

Units/Modules & Instructional Days	Assessments & Scanning Deadlines	Standards
Unit 1: Properties of Matter 1 15 Days, 2 Flex Days	TX_SCI_3rdScience_F26_UE1 Scanning Deadline: September 22,2026	TEKS 3.6(A), 3.6(B), 3.6(C), 3.6(D)
Unit 2: Force, Motion, Energy 15 Days, 1 Flex	TX_SCI_3rdScience_F26_UE2 Scanning Deadline: October 20,2026	TEKS 3.8(A), 3.8(B), 3.7(A), 3.7(B),
Unit 3: Earth and Space 15 days	TX_SCI_3rdScience_F26_UE3 Scanning Deadline: November 16,2026	TEKS 3.9(A), 3.9(B)
Unit 4: Changes to Earth's Surface 15 Days	TX_SCI_3rdScience_F26_UE4 Scanning Deadline: December 16,2026 (Optional)	TEKS 3.10(A), 3.10(B), 3.10(C)
Unit 5: Ecosystems, Food Chains, and Natural Disasters 15 Days, 1 Flex	TX_SCI_3rdScience_S27_UE5 Scanning Deadline: February 3, 2027	TEKS 3.12(A), 3.12(B), 3.12(C), 3.12(D)
Unit 6: Adaptations 15 Days, 2 Flex	TX_SCI_3rdScience_S27_UE6 Scanning Deadline: March 4, 2027 (Optional)	TEKS 3.13(A), 3.13(B)
Unit 7 Recycling Projects	No scanning deadline	TEKS 3.5(A) 3.5(B), 3.5(C), 3.5(D)
Final Exam: May 5th-14th, 2027		

Grade Level & Course Name | School Year Instructional Plan

TEKS Alignment
Instruction in this course is aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as adopted by the State Board of Education and implemented in accordance with Texas Education Code Chapter 28.

Instructional Materials
Primary Texts (if applicable)

Supplemental instructional materials may be used to support instruction. Supplemental materials do not replace board-approved core instructional materials.

Additional information regarding instructional programs, assessments, and parent access to instructional materials is available on the district website.

Instructional Expectations
Instruction is delivered using board-approved instructional materials and aligned to the scope and sequence outlined above. Teachers are expected to ensure all required standards are taught within the course timeframe.

Assessment Overview
Student learning is monitored through formative and summative assessments aligned to course standards. Assessment results are used to inform instruction and student supports. Students participate in required state assessments when applicable.