8th Grade Science STAAR Prep Guide

TEKS + Khan Academy Science Practice Alignment

About the guide

This guide highlights the **8th-grade science TEKS most emphasized on STAAR** and pairs each one with targeted practice from Khan Academy's Texas-aligned biology content. It is designed to help teachers quickly reinforce high-impact concepts through warm-ups, small-group review, intervention, or STAAR preparation.

Our TEKs-aligned content was made possible thanks to the ExxonMobil Foundation.

Why this guide helps

The TEKS listed here are the ones students are most likely to encounter on STAAR. The matching practice links give you:

- Skills that have the **greatest impact** on STAAR readiness
- Quick, low-prep exercises students can start right away
- A clean breakdown by TEKS cluster for efficient planning
- Easy options for warm-ups, exit tickets, and reteach moments

How to use this guide:

1. Begin with **Readiness Standards (R)** — these appear most heavily on STAAR.
2. Assign the linked Khan Academy practice for targeted reinforcement.
3. Follow clusters in the order listed (Interdependence → Force/Motion → Atoms → Chemical Reactions → Earth/Space → Univer
4. Use the guide during spiraling, warm-ups, STAAR bootcamp days, or small-group reteach.

Helpful links

8th Grade Science Course

Texas Teacher Resources

Teacher Dashboard

8th Grade Science TEKS Priority Skills + Khan Academy Practice

All TEKS are Readiness Standards (R) in this subject.

READINESS STANDARDS (R)

Interdependence of Living Systems	
TEKS & STAAR %	**Khan Academy Practice**
8.11(A) — 10%	• Greenhouse effect and greenhouse gases • Greenhouse effect

Force, Motion, and Energy	
TEKS & STAAR %	**Khan Academy Practice**
8.6(A) — 6%	• Understand: motion
8.6(C) — 11%	• Understand: Newton's third law • Apply: Newton's third law

Properties of Atoms	
TEKS & STAAR %	**Khan Academy Practice**
8.5(A) — 13%	• Apply: atomic structure • Understand: atomic structure
8.5(B) — 7%	• Isotope composition: counting protons, electrons, and neutrons
8.5(C) — 6%	• Understand: structure of the periodic table

Chemical Formulas, Equations, and Reactions	
TEKS & STAAR %	**Khan Academy Practice**
8.5(D) — 4%	• Apply: energy of chemical reactions