

STAAR Grade 8 Science Blueprint for the 2024-2025 School Year – Assessing the Overlap Curriculum

Reporting Category	Number of Standards	Number of Questions	Number of Points
1: Matter and Energy	Readiness: 2 Supporting: 3	9–11	10–14
2: Force, Motion, and Energy	Readiness: *3 Supporting: 4	7–9	8–12
3: Earth and Space	Readiness: 3 Supporting: 8	9–11	10–14
4: Organisms and Environments	Readiness: 1 Supporting: 11	9–11	10–14
Item Types by Point			
	1-point questions (multiple-choice and non-multiple choice)	30	30
	2-point questions (non-multiple choice)	8	16
Total		38	46

All TEKS, whether identified as readiness or supporting, are required to be taught in their entirety for a grade level or course.

Readiness standards are essential for success in the current grade level and important for preparedness for the next grade level or course. They address broad and deep ideas and require in-depth instruction. These standards make up approximately 55–70% of the total points on the base test.

Supporting standards play a role in preparing students for the next grade or course but not one that is central. They address more narrowly defined ideas or concepts that are emphasized in grade levels below or above the current grade level or course. Supporting standards make up approximately 30–45% of the total points on the base test.

Every passage and question on STAAR is created for Texas students with the review and approval of Texas educators.

STAAR passages and questions go through a [rigorous development and review process](#) to ensure they accurately measure student knowledge.

Step 1: Passages and questions are written to align with the TEKS, which describe what students should know and be able to do in each grade and subject.

Step 2: Groups of Texas educators review and approve passages and questions for the grade and subject they teach to ensure passages and questions are grade-level appropriate, align with the TEKS, and are unbiased and accessible to all students.

Step 3: Questions are tested out by Texas students but do not count towards their scores to confirm that the questions are unbiased and accurate. These are called “field-test questions”.

Step 4: Passages and questions that pass all previous steps can be selected for an official STAAR test to provide educators and families with information to support teaching and learning.

[STAAR Science Resources](#)

[STAAR Resources for all Assessments](#)

[STAAR Redesign Resources](#)

***The number of readiness standards for reporting category 2 increased because one of the current readiness standards was broken into two standards in the revised TEKS.**