



**Prince of Wales Secondary School**  
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## Science 8: I am a scientist

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**Our Mission:** to provide a safe, supportive learning environment within a diverse school community. This community will foster self-esteem, co-operation, and mutual respect, and will allow students and staff to pursue self-discovery and excellence. The human and physical resources of the school will support the intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, and emotional growth of all students so that they may become life-long learners and worthwhile contributors to the larger community.

### Goals/ Curricular Competencies Δ

To develop knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for scientific literacy by:

- questioning and predicting
- planning and conducting
- processing and analyzing data and information
- evaluating, applying and innovating
- communicating

like a scientist.

During this course learners will be developing their knowledge, critical and creative thinking abilities, communication skills and personal and social awareness while increasing understanding of the natural world.

### Assessment: Owning My Learning

A variety of opportunities for learning and showing what has been learned will be provided throughout the year. It is hoped that the learner will be able to discover how they learn best and the many different ways they can show what they have learned.

**Assessment as Learning** is ongoing both independently and as part of a group. It includes quizzes, labs, class activities, homework assignments, minor investigations, etc.

**Assessment of Learning** opportunities show what has been learned and include both independent and group activities such as written works, labs and major projects.

**Year End Capstone Project** will enable students to show what they have learned this year in a method of their choosing.

A learning intentions sheet will be provided for each unit. Learners are encouraged to self-evaluate their progress as we learn together. An assignment record sheet will be provided for each term so that they can keep track of their learning. "Thinking about my learning" questions will be provided at the end of each term to help track progress and set goals. At the end of each lesson learners will ask the question "What did I learn today?" and are encouraged to continually assess their own progress and growth as a learner.

### Course Content: Big Ideas o

**I am a Scientist:** Scientists conduct experiments to investigate the physical, biological and chemical world. Safety, Thinking and communicating like a scientist.

**Cells are the Lego of Life:** Life processes are performed at the cellular level. Making things bigger., All living things are made up of one or more cells, White blood cells to the rescue.

**I can see clearly now the light is bent:** Energy can be transferred as both a particle and a wave. Why does my lab coat appear white?, They do it all with mirrors and lenses!, I can see clearly now the light is bent!

**What is matter made up of and how can we classify it?:** The theory of the moving little lumps explains the behaviour of matter. How much do I have? How can I classify matter?, What is the smallest partical of matter?

**Why does PW have earthquake drills?:** Earth's geological processes can be explained by the movement of tectonic plates.

### Reporting: Proficiency Scale

A	<b>Extending/ exemplary:</b> sophisticated understanding Learner says: "I get it beyond what is expected of me. I can teach a friend".
B	<b>Proficient/ accomplished:</b> complete understanding Learner says: "I get it. I can do it on my own."
C+,C	<b>Developing:</b> partial understanding Learner says: "I get some of it. I am beginning to do more and more on my own."
C-	<b>Emerging:</b> initial understanding Learner says: "I'm just getting started. I learn best with help."

### PRINCE OF WALES SECONDARY SCHOOL

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the above course expectations.  
(Print full name of student)

Signature of student: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Block: Science 8 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign and return to subject teacher.**

**REACH: Classroom Expectations**

**Respect Effort Attitude Contribution Honesty**

- Come to class on time, prepared to work.
- Act safely and maturely in class.
- Respect the rights of other students to obtain an education, and the right of the teacher to do her job.

**Criteria for Work Habits**

**Excellent (E):** Industrious work ethic, high degree of positive and meaningful participation, seeks out learning opportunities

**Good (G):** Ready to work and learn, participates in a meaningful way, self directed learner

**Satisfactory (S):** Most assignments turned in, usually works well with others and teacher, often requires direction

**Needs Improvement (N):** Many assignments missing, frequently not ready to work, does not use class time wisely, frerquently requires external motivation to engage in learning

**Absences throughout the Year**

Regular attendance is an important part of success. If absent or late, the learner is responsible for the information and tasks missed. Check with a classmate or the teacher, look on the homework board or refer to the class blog to discover what was covered during the absence. Extra handouts can be found in the class folder on top of the file cabinet in the classroom. Remember that flex time is available to make up missed summatives and assignments, work on group projects or to meet with classmates or the teacher.

**Re-writing Summatives**

The goal of any summative is to demonstrate what has been learned (“show what you know”). If the score is below 50%, indicating that learners are emerging or just getting started in their learning, then the summative may be re-written as many times as needed to achieve a score of 50%. It is the learner’s responsibility to take advantage of this opportunity. All summative tests/exams are kept on file. Learners may refer to them anytime throughout the year. Summative projects will be returned to the learner.

**Extra Help**

I usually arrive at school by 8:00am and my door is open during flex time. If you can not find me, please email and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Remember to check the teacher blog for the day’s learning.

**Materials:** to be brought to class each day

- 3 ring binder with notepaper
- Pencil, pen, eraser
- Protractor (optional)
- Basic calculator

**Cheating:**

Unauthorized use of materials, aid from a classmate or the use of an electronic device, such as a phone, during a summative is a serious offence and could result in a score of zero, notes to the counsellor and administrator and a call home. Please refer to the student agenda for further detail.