

# Feb. 4F Gr.8: Benefits and Risks of Chemical Use

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **February**  
Length: **1 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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Chemicals can help us accomplish great things, but they can sometimes be harmful. This concept will help you learn more about the risks and benefits of using chemicals.

## Enduring Understandings

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### Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Describe and assess the appropriate uses of chemicals in medicine, food, agriculture, and sanitation.
- Evaluate the benefits and risks of chemical use through an investigation.

## Essential Questions

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### • Focus Questions

- How do particles combine to form the variety of matter one observes?
- How do substances combine or change (react) to make new substances?
- How does one characterize and explain these reactions and make predictions about them?

### • Lesson Questions

- How do chemicals benefit society?
- How are the risks of using chemicals evaluated?
- How do natural and synthetic chemicals compare to each other?

### • Can You Explain?

- How are chemicals both helpful and harmful to us and to our world?
- Overaching Question

- How can one explain the structure, properties, and interactions of matter?

## Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

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- [The Five E Instructional Model](#)

Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- [Engage \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are asked to consider the benefits, risks, and uses of chemicals in the everyday world. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain? (CYE) question.

- [Explore \(90 minutes\)](#)

Students explore how chemicals and compounds form. Next, they examine the benefits of using chemical substances. Then, they explore the potential risk of chemical use. Finally, they consider the differences between natural and synthetic chemicals.

- [Explain \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of how various chemicals can be harmful and/or helpful to the planet or humans if they are utilized by society.

- [Elaborate with STEM \(45–135 minutes\)](#)

Students are introduced to the ever-changing relationship between society and chemicals. They use what they have learned to explore two examples of everyday chemicals, detergents, and antibiotics.

- [Evaluate \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessments.

## Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

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WRK.9.2.8.CAP.1

Identify offerings such as high school and county career and technical school courses, apprenticeships, military programs, and dual enrollment courses that support career or occupational areas of interest.

WRK.9.2.8.CAP.3

Explain how career choices, educational choices, skills, economic conditions, and personal behavior affect income.

WRK.9.2.8.CAP.10

Evaluate how careers have evolved regionally, nationally, and globally.

WRK.9.2.8.CAP.11

Analyze potential career opportunities by considering different types of resources, including occupation databases, and state and national labor market statistics.

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| WRK.9.2.8.CAP.12 | Assess personal strengths, talents, values, and interests to appropriate jobs and careers to maximize career potential.   |
| TECH.9.4.8.CI.1  | Assess data gathered on varying perspectives on causes of climate change (e.g., cross-cultural, gender-specific, generational), and determine how the data can best be used to design multiple potential solutions (e.g., RI.7.9, 6.SP.B.5, 7.1.NH.IPERS.6, 8.2.8.ETW.4). |
| TECH.9.4.8.CI.3  | Examine challenges that may exist in the adoption of new ideas (e.g., 2.1.8.SSH, 6.1.8.CivicsPD.2).   |
| TECH.9.4.8.CI.4  | Explore the role of creativity and innovation in career pathways and industries.  |
| TECH.9.4.8.CT.3  | Compare past problem-solving solutions to local, national, or global issues and analyze the factors that led to a positive or negative outcome.   |
| TECH.9.4.8.DC.8  | Explain how communities use data and technology to develop measures to respond to effects of climate change (e.g., smart cities).   |
| TECH.9.4.8.TL.4  | Synthesize and publish information about a local or global issue or event (e.g., MSLS4-5, 6.1.8.CivicsPI.3).  |
| TECH.9.4.8.GCA.1 | Model how to navigate cultural differences with sensitivity and respect (e.g., 1.5.8.C1a).  |
| TECH.9.4.8.GCA.2 | Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal.  |
| TECH.9.4.8.ILM.1 | Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information.   |
| TECH.9.4.8.ILM.7 | Use information from a variety of sources, contexts, disciplines, and cultures for a specific purpose (e.g., 1.2.8.C2a, 1.4.8.CR2a, 2.1.8.CHSS/IV.8.AI.1, W.5.8, 6.1.8.GeoSV.3.a, 6.1.8.CivicsDP.4.b, 7.1.NH. IPRET.8).   |
| TECH.9.4.8.ILM.8 | Apply deliberate and thoughtful search strategies to access high-quality information on climate change (e.g., 1.1.8.C1b).   |
|                  | Gathering and evaluating knowledge and information from a variety of sources, including global perspectives, fosters creativity and innovative thinking.  |
|                  | Sources of information are evaluated for accuracy and relevance when considering the use of information.  |
|                  | Awareness of and appreciation for cultural differences is critical to avoid barriers to productive and positive interaction.  |
|                  | Multiple solutions often exist to solve a problem.  |

## **Technology and Design Integration**

Technology is fully integrated using Discovery Techbook.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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| LA.RST.6-8   | Reading Science and Technical Subjects  |
| LA.RST.6-8.1 | Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.  |
| LA.RI.8.1    | Cite the textual evidence and make relevant connections that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. |
| LA.RST.6-8.2 | Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the  |

text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

LA.RST.6-8.3 Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.

LA.RI.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

LA.RST.6-8.4 Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 6-8 texts and topics.

LA.RST.6-8.5 Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.

LA.RST.6-8.6 Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.

LA.RI.8.7 Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.

LA.RST.6-8.7 Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).

LA.RI.8.8 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

LA.RST.6-8.8 Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.

LA.RST.6-8.9 Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.

LA.RI.8.10 By the end of the year read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.

LA.W.8.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

LA.WHST.6-8.1 Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.

LA.WHST.6-8.1.A Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.

LA.WHST.6-8.1.B Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.

LA.WHST.6-8.1.C Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

LA.WHST.6-8.1.D Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.

LA.W.8.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

LA.WHST.6-8.2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.

LA.WHST.6-8.2.A Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension.

LA.WHST.6-8.2.B Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.

LA.WHST.6-8.2.C Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.

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| LA.WHST.6-8.2.D | Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.  |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.E | Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.  |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.F | Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.   |
| LA.WHST.6-8.4   | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.  |
| LA.WHST.6-8.5   | With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.                   |
| LA.WHST.6-8.6   | Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.  |
| LA.WHST.6-8.10  | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. |
| LA.W.8.7        | Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.                          |
| LA.SL.8.1       | Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.                          |
| LA.SL.8.4       | Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.                 |

## Differentiation

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### Struggling Students

1. Using a two-column chart, ask students to develop a pro and con list reflecting the potential benefits and risks of chemical use as the lessons progress.
2. Have students brainstorm things that are chemical in nature. Have them collaborate in groups to develop lists of examples and their own definition of a chemical. At the end of the lesson, reflect back on the original meaning and have them compare it to what they know now.

### ELL

1. Provide information on concepts students may not be familiar with, such as fracking, at the beginning of the lesson so that when the topics are approached in class, the students will have a basis to understand the dialogue.
2. Make sure to provide visuals of the various chemical products and procedures discussed in this unit so students can connect things they are familiar with seeing to new vocabulary.

### Accelerated Students

1. Challenge students to create a list of sources of mechanical energy used in generators. Compare the relative benefit and risk of each source.
2. Challenge students to describe how organic farming could change the benefits and risks of chemical use in the garden.

[Differentiation in science](#) can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students,

you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.
- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.
- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered

## **Modifications & Accommodations**

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Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMODATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

### **Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

In addition to differentiated instruction, IEP's and 504 accommodations will be utilized.

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## **Benchmark Assessments**

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**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per

month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

### **Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

### **Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

Pre and post assessments to measure growth.

## **Formative Assessments**

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Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

### **Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

See assessments located in links above.

## **Summative Assessments**

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**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

### **Summative assessments for this unit:**

See assessments located in links above.

## **Instructional Materials**

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See materials located in links above.

Discovery Techbook

Teacher made materials

Additional labs are available through NJCTL on-line curriculum

## **Standards**

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| SCI.MS-PS1-1 | Develop models to describe the atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures.  |
| SCI.MS.PS1.A | <b>Structure and Properties of Matter</b><br><br>Solids may be formed from molecules, or they may be extended structures with repeating subunits (e.g., crystals).  |
| SCI.MS-PS1-2 | Analyze and interpret data on the properties of substances before and after the substances interact to determine if a chemical reaction has occurred.<br><br><b>Analyzing and Interpreting Data</b>   |
| SCI.MS.PS1.A | <b>Structure and Properties of Matter</b><br><br>Substances react chemically in characteristic ways. In a chemical process, the atoms that make up the original substances are regrouped into different molecules, and these new substances have different properties from those of the reactants.  |
| SCI.MS-PS1-3 | Gather and make sense of information to describe that synthetic materials come from natural resources and impact society.   |
| SCI.MS.PS1.A | <b>Structure and Properties of Matter</b><br><br>Each pure substance has characteristic physical and chemical properties (for any bulk quantity under given conditions) that can be used to identify it.  |
| SCI.MS.PS1.A | <b>Structure and Properties of Matter</b><br><br>Gases and liquids are made of molecules or inert atoms that are moving about relative to each other.<br><br>In a liquid, the molecules are constantly in contact with others; in a gas, they are widely spaced except when they happen to collide. In a solid, atoms are closely spaced and may vibrate in position but do not change relative locations.<br><br>The changes of state that occur with variations in temperature or pressure can be described and predicted using these models of matter. |