

Course Syllabus
Fun Science (Fall 2025)
The Mandarin Chinese School at Arlington TX
Updated on June 25, 2025

INSTRUCTOR - Ms. Amber Lo
E-mail: <<only disclosed to the parents of this class>>
Phone: <<only disclosed to the parents of this class>>

The best way to contact me is via phone calls and simple text messages at the phone number listed above. I will try my best to reply messages within 24 hours. For security reasons, I only take phone calls and read email messages from people on my contact list. Parents: please give your name and phone number to me, so that I can add you to my contact list.

OFFICIAL CLASS DATE

August 24, 2025 to December 7, 2025

CLASS VENUE

Arlington Chinese Church, 805 Oakwood Lane, Arlington, TX 76012

TEXTBOOK AND OTHER RESOURCES

No purchased textbooks are needed. The instructor will distribute handouts to students. Students will organize them in an instructor-provided “portfolio” as they receive them in class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides both:

- (1) An introduction to a few STEAM professional careers and the related contributions in those fields and
- (2) Experimental investigations of various concepts: material science, the three states of matter, and chemical reactions in food science, etc.

The focus is on developing students’ interest in STEAM careers and science through foods and everyday objects - things to which they can easily relate.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify three STEAM professions.
2. Explain the role of water inside matters such as popcorn kernels.
3. Explain the effect of adding salt to cold water.
4. Explain the action of bubbles in soda.
5. Explain how Arctic animals keep warm and how yeast thrives.
6. Describe concepts: refraction, simple machines, air pressure, static electricity, as well as action and reaction.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to:

(1) Attend all class sessions

(2) Bring the following materials to every class:

- (a) The portfolio distributed by the instructor on the first day of class,
- (b) The apron and goggles distributed by the instructor on the second day of class,
- (c) Parent-provided pencils and eraser for class activities.

Items (a) and (b) are included in the course. Please ask your child to take good care of them. In the case of a replacement is needed, there will be a replacement fee for each item provided again. Thank you for your cooperation.

(3) Focus on learning during class time:

Although the material is fun, the learning is still serious. This class will follow the traditional classroom setting - no eating or chatting during class time, unless such activities are parts of class activities. Parents and other parties are always welcome to visit and observe.

(4) Do NOT try the experiments without adult supervision.

EXAMINATIONS and HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

None

ACTIONS REQUIRED OF PARENTS

In order to enhance all parties' health and safety, the instructor will distribute a document to each student on the first day of class:

Science Safety Rules and Science Safety Contract.

Before the second day of class on September 7, 2025, please:

- (1) Review the above document with your child/children
- (2) Fill out both copies, keep one copy in the student's portfolio and ask your child to return the other completed copy to the instructor on the second day of class. Thank you.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Lesson	Title	Fun Activity in Science
08/24	1	How Do Scientists Think?	Soap Clouds
08/31 Labor Day Weekend (no class)			
09/07	2	Career I - Architects	Magic Spoon
09/14	3	Architecture - Landmarks of the World	Which Bridge is Stronger?
09/21	4	Architecture - The Leaning Tower of Pisa	Fishing for Ice
09/28	5	Architecture - The Gateway Arch	An Unleakable Baggie
10/05 School Picnic (no class)			
10/12	6	Career II: Dietitians	How Do Arctic Animals Stay Warm?
10/19	7	Foods for More Energy	How to Get the Best Pops
10/26	8	Foods for Brain Power	Growing Yeast
11/02	9	Sugar and the Body	Dancing Raisins
11/09	10	Career III - Engineers	Floating Water
11/16	11	The Engineering Process	Right or Left?
11/2 Thanksgiving (no class)			
11/30	12	Simple Machines	Straw Balloon Rocket Blaster
12/07	13	Christmas tree craft, Review, Sharing, and Awards	