

Science Syllabus

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Description

Sixth grade science marks a great transition for our students, the beginning of middle school, with separate courses with different teachers, finals and lockers!

Science curriculum features an integration of scientific concepts providing experience to learn about physical science, life science, earth/space science and scientific processes. Below you will find an overview of the areas of focus.

We begin the year exploring scientific processes all while abiding by proper safety measures while in the classroom and lab settings. Students will work with groups to learn how to solve problems and report their findings.

The remainder of the first semester is spent studying ecosystems, biomes, foodwebs, and biodiversity. We look at the interconnectedness of organisms, how energy flows providing food for organisms. Students will study the carrying capacity of an ecosystem, patterns of organisms across ecosystems, the water cycle and the effects that changing elements of an ecosystems has on the organisms within it. Wrapping up the semester we will complete our human growth and development unit.

After winter break students come back students delve into physical science. Students learn about Newton's Laws of Motion and how they explain the motion of objects. We go deeper to explain the energy within an object. Wrapping up the school year we will explore weather, and discover our solar system.

Expectations for course work

Purpose

Assignments given to students are meant to reinforce and extend learning of current content. The assignments also serve as a gauge of student learning to guide and drive instruction. With such great importance behind the work students are expected to complete all assignments, homework and in-class, by the given due date.

Quality

All work is expected to be of quality in effort and the final product. Assignments that are submitted lacking in quality effort or work will be returned to the student to be reworked and submitted promptly. A final grade will only be given following the completion and submission of a quality assignment.

Homework

Homework assignments will be available for the week on the class website <http://mse-science.weebly.com>. Homework assignments can be accessed on any smartphone, tablet, or computer. Homework is due by the due date, which is given with plenty of notice and is posted on the website and class calendar. See the Late Assignments section for the procedure for late work.

Late Assignments

If a due date passes and a student has not turned in the work the student will be issued a missing assignment ticket and make a phone call home informing his/her parents that the assignment was not turned in.

Grading Scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Classroom Expectations:

1. Come to class on time. You must be in your seat, with all supplies (pencil, agenda, and binder) and quiet when the bell rings.
2. Attend to personal needs before class. I will not be giving passes to lockers, the restroom or other location with the exception of true emergencies.
3. Begin bellwork when the bell rings. Please do not wait for me to remind you to begin since I need to take roll and attend to other duties for the first few minutes of the period.
4. Stay in your assigned seat unless you have permission to get up.
5. Keep all drinks, candy, food and gum outside of the classroom.
6. Talk only when appropriate. Be sure to use appropriate language and show respect to the other in the class.
7. Submit your own work. Both the student who shares his/her work AND the student who copies will suffer the same consequences.
8. Follow the teacher's directions, the first time given and immediately.

Getting your Attention

There will be times that you will be in the middle of an experiment, task or activity and I will need your undivided attention. When I want your attention I will raise my hand and say, "I will need it quiet in..." followed by a count-down from five to zero. At that time I would like for you to do five things:

1. Put your eyes on me
2. Quiet your voice
3. Quiet your body

4. Make your hands free (put everything down).
5. Listen

Behavior Management

- 1. **Redirect**: Verbal warning communicated to student
- 2. **Move Seats/Safe Seat**: This means student is and moved to a place where he/she can focus on task at hand. ZERO VOICE LEVEL and NO MOVEMENT AT ALL IS EXPECTED. Student is expected to listen and pay attention if there is presentation and to complete all assigned tasks regardless. If a student CHOOSES NOT TO WORK, it is still he/she will meet all expectations of a task or lesson. PARENT WILL BE CONTACTED and STUDENT MUST PROCESS TEACHER BEFORE MOVING BACK TO regular seating
- 3. **Buddy Room**: Student will be assigned to a buddy room. All the above expectations will be followed with exception that student is to not bother the Buddy Teacher at all unless addressed. PARENT CONTACT AND STUDENT PROCESS ARE REQUIRED TO RETURN TO CLASS. (Could be return into SAFE SEAT if needed for intervention and student success purposes)
- 4. **Referred to Administration**: Parent Contact

Interruptions

It is inevitable that someone will call on our attention during class, be it a knock on the door or over the intercom.

If someone knocks on the door or calls over the intercom please immediately silence your voice and remain seated while I speak with the individual. It is absolutely necessary to be respectful, you never know when it's going to be a principal.

Leaving the Classroom

It is not acceptable for a student to leave the classroom without permission.

When it is time for our class session to end I will dismiss the class, the bell does not. I will do my best to make sure that you are dismissed on time; I can do this so long as you do not shuffle paper, push out your chairs or stand up before being dismissed.

Emergency Alerts

If an alarm or signal goes off indicating an emergency please stop what you are doing immediately and give me your attention. Silence is required because instructions will be following the emergency alert.

Science Syllabus
Parent & Student Contract

Greetings,

I ask that you please take a few minutes to sit down with your child to read over the expectations for performance and behavior in my science class and discuss what this means for your child in the classroom. It is extremely appreciated any and all assistance you can provide in reinforcing these expectations.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me by calling Wilbur Middle School at 316-973-1100 or by email cengelking@usd259.net.

Thank you for all of your help to get this school year started off in a positive way.

Ms Engelking

By signing this form you are acknowledging that you have sat down with your child to discuss the expectations of his/her performance in science class and that you understand the expectations that have been set for your child.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

As a student by signing this form you are agreeing that you have read and understand the expectations and that you will follow the expectations that have been set for your performance and behavior in science class.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____