## 7th Grade Science Syllabus Mrs. Cunningham Room 11



Course Description: 7th Grade Science is a rigorous academic course designed to support all students at their current level and encourage growth and development in their academic abilities. This course will enable students to understand, apply, analyze, and evaluate scientific concepts. Students will also demonstrate knowledge and skills through the creation of models and cumulative projects. Curriculum is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for middle school. If you would like more information about NGSS, you can visit this site: <a href="https://www.nextgenscience.org/">https://www.nextgenscience.org/</a>

Enduring Understanding: Everything is Everything! The natural world is interconnected. Students will be able to recognize that the natural world is made of systems and patterns that constantly interact and affect one another. Students will develop an understanding of their place in the natural world and how human behavior affects the natural world, and in turn themselves and our greater communities.

### Schedule:

Monday and Tuesday: Exploration of content, Notes, Practice,

clean-up, review, dismiss

<u>Wednesday:</u> Connection circle/mindfulness practice, review, clean-up,

dismiss

<u>Thursday and Friday:</u> Lab/hands on learning, clean-up, review, dismiss and quiz or test on Friday with science literacy practice and private meetings with students who need help.



#### Semester 1 Units of study:

- -Engineering and Design/Scientific Thinking
- -Earth's Resources and Climate Change
- -Chemical Reactions

#### Semester 2 Units of Study:

- -Metabolic Reactions in Organisms
- -Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy in ecosystems
- -Ecosystem Interactions and Competition

#### Materials:

- 1. 3 subject notebook with pockets for dividers
- 1. Writing utensils (pencils, pens, colored pencils, 3 different colored highlighters, erasers, pencil sharpener)
- 2. Personal headphones

\*\*Join the google classroom to stay up to date if you miss class. Here is the code: jv2aq6t

#### Course Grades:

<u>Participation:</u> 30% (on task behaviors/effort) do now, notes, data collection, group work collaboration assignments. Points will be deducted for off task behaviors such as use of unauthorized devices in class or the student does not put forth effort.

Example: cell phones, personal computers/ipads or headphones out without permission, not doing the daily classwork such as the daily review (do now), notes or group work participation

<u>Practice:</u> 20% (practice assignments, quizzes)

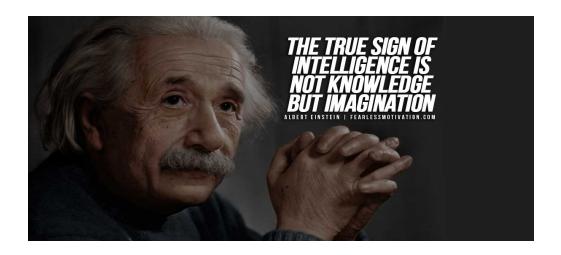
Performance: 50% (Tests and projects)

### Late work is better than no work!

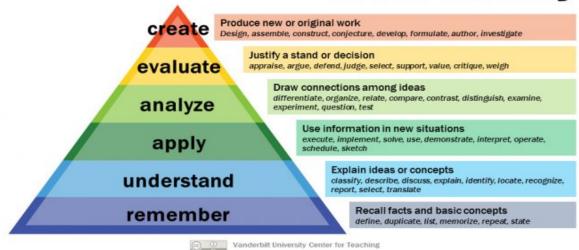
Late work will be accepted, but you will only receive 50% credit for late work. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to make up for missed work, which can be found on the google classroom. You are allowed one full week to make up for missing work, quizzes and tests.

\*\*After one week of due date, you will only receive half credit.

\*Early assignments in a unit will focus on student exploration, vocabulary and recalling information. As the unit progresses, so will the rigor of assignments. That means it is expected that students will have enough knowledge on a topic to then understand, analyze, evaluate, and finally culminate in creating new or original work. I want to develop student's creativity and give opportunities for student projects that demonstrate the student's understanding of course content through their talents and preferred mode of expression via the arts.



# **Bloom's Taxonomy**



# Class expectations

- 1. Respect yourself-take care of yourself (sleep/eat/exercise/create goals for yourself)
- 2. Respect everyone (teachers, peers) we want a safe space where everyone is seen and heard
- 3. Respect the school environment (classrooms/materials/hallways/cafe/shared spaces/performance spaces too)

Consequences for not following class expectations:

1st offense: redirection and reminder

2nd offense: private conversation with student to problem solve

3rd offense: student reflection for solving the problem

4th offense: contact family and set up meeting

5th offense: referral to administration for further disciplinary

action (let us never get to this one!)

Follow expectations, and do your best! I promise to work hard for you and guide you to success in Science class!

## Staying Connected

If you need assistance or help in any way...

Please email me at:

Tiffany Cunningham

tcunningham@paparts.net or tcunningham@paparts.org
Office Hours: upon request as hours may vary

Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.

-A Einstein

