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: https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Middle-School-Integrated-Course-Map.pdf

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.

<u>Schedule:</u>

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

clean-up, review, dismiss

Wednesday: assignment, review, clean-up, dismiss

<u>Thursday:</u> Lab/hands on learning, or science literacy, clean-up, review, dismiss

<u>Friday</u>: quiz or test on Friday with science literacy practice and private meetings with students who need help. All assignments for the week are due on Friday.



Each unit takes approximately 6 weeks to complete

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
- 3. Laptop charged and functioning daily

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

Course Grades:

<u>Weekly Participation:</u> (30%) academic behaviors- responsibility, preparedness for class, time management, following directions, following classroom expectations

***Points will be deducted daily for off task behaviors such as use of unauthorized devices in class, not following directions and/or classroom expectations.

***See power school notes for details and description of why points were deducted if score is less than 80%

<u>Practice</u>: 20% (practice assignments, quizzes-quizzes are open notes)

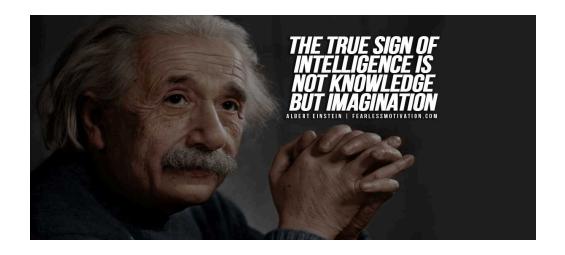
<u>Performance:</u> 50% (Tests and projects)

Late work is better than no work!

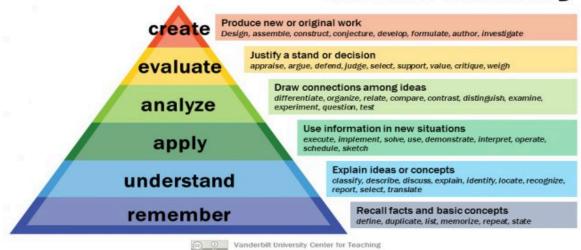
Late work will be accepted, but you will only receive 50% credit for late work. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to make up for missed work, which can be found on the google classroom and in the classroom. You are allowed one day to make up for missing work, quizzes and tests.

**After one day of missed absence, 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. One voice at a time- do not talk over teacher or other students and use the appropriate volume for class discussions
- 2. Be prepared for class-have your notebook everyday and something to write with
- 3. No phones or other personal devices allowed during class
- 4. Be kind, be helpful, be honest, and keep your hands to yourself
- 5. Do your best and stay on task

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.

***Please note: if a student is dangerous to themselves or others administration will be called immediately for intervention and correction

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:

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

