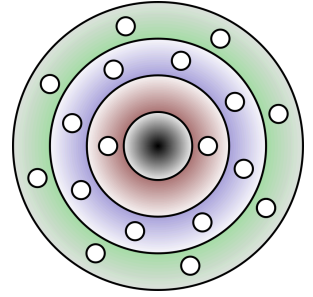


8th Grade Syllabus

Teacher: Alfredo Barrio
Email: fbarrio@paparts.org

Classroom Number: 10
Prep Period: 4th



Course Description

Have you ever wondered why things move the way they do? Or how tiny cells work together to create complex living organisms? This year, we'll dive into the fascinating worlds of **physics and biology**—and explore the surprising ways they connect.

What forces shape our physical world? How does energy flow through living systems? Why do matter and life behave the way they do? Together, we'll investigate these questions through **hands-on experiments, creative projects, and teamwork**.

Get ready to ask big questions, test your ideas, and discover how science helps us make sense of everything from roller coasters to the human body. Your curiosity will be your greatest tool on this exciting journey!

Google Classroom

We will be using Google Classroom for a wide variety of tasks. Google Classroom should be a resource to help you find study materials for quizzes and tests, submit assignments and to identify daily objectives.

Login: PAPA email

Password: Student ID Number (usually)

* If you forget your password please contact the office.



Units

In this class we will be following the recommended secondary course map as suggested by the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED). Every standard is grouped into a smaller unit of study.

[Recommended Secondary Course Map: Middle School Science](#)

Engineering and Design/Nature of Science:

Topics: Scientific thinking and practices, Laboratory safety, Metric conversions, Observations and inferences.

Contact Forces and Motion:

Topics: Forces, Motion and Newton's Laws.

Noncontact Forces:

Topics: Gravity, Electricity and Magnetism.

Sound Waves:

Topics: Wave Properties, Wave Behavior.

Earth's Place in the Universe

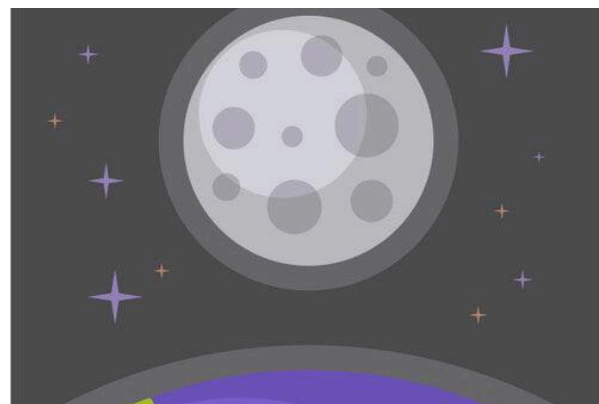
Topics: Lunar phases, Gravity (review), Scale

Genetics:

Topics: Heredity, Simple Mendelian genetics, DNA (review)

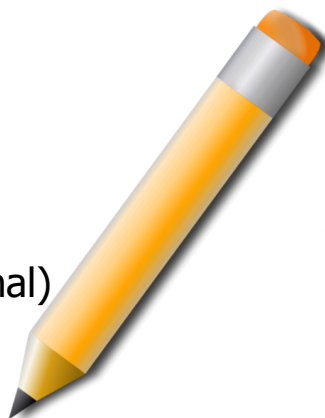
Natural Selection and Common Ancestry:

Topics: Natural selection, Adaptations, Descent with modification, Common ancestry.



Materials

Pens (Blue or Black)
1" Binder or larger
Color pencils
Scientific Calculator (optional)
Laptop (PAPA/Personal)



Pencils
Box of disposable gloves
(non-latex) (optional)
Shop Towels (optional)

Expectations

1. As a college prep school; PAPA demands high rigor. To earn high grades you must study and practice.

A= Study and review for 20 minutes per night

B= Study and review for 15 minutes per night

C= Study and review for 10 minutes per night

D= Study and review for 05 minutes per night

F= Study and review for <5 minutes per night

2. Bring your binder and computer charged every day.
3. Please participate; the more you participate the more you will get out of the class.
4. No food or drinks; except water.
5. Please respect things that do not belong to you. Some of the equipment in this class is expensive to replace.
6. Please turn off and store your phone while in class.
7. Follow lab safety procedures. If you cannot; you will not participate.
8. Support your classmates.
9. Try; even if you do not know the answer.
10. Be prepared and on time.

Grading

Grades will be determined based on points. Grades are determined by quizzes, tests, assignments and participation.

1. Weekly Assignments: Quizzes, Edpuzzles, Homework etc.
2. Unit Projects
3. Unit Tests
4. Midterm and Final Exam

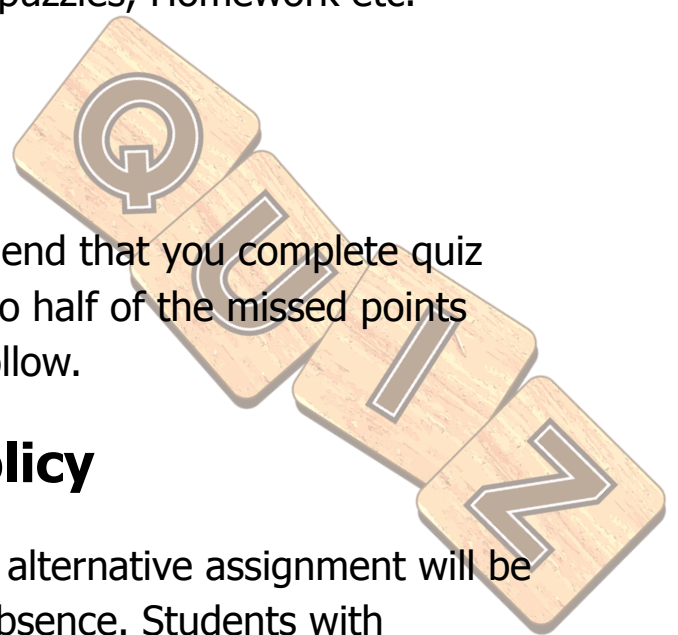
Test/Quiz Corrections- I highly recommend that you complete quiz and test corrections. You can earn up to half of the missed points back on quizzes and tests. Details to follow.

Missing and Late Work Policy

Missed labs cannot be rescheduled; an alternative assignment will be provided if a student has an excused absence. Students with unexcused absences will lose participation points for the time they are not in class.

Students with an excused absence will have time equal to the number of classes missed to turn in any work without a late penalty.

Missing assignments will be recorded as a "0" with a missing indicator. I update grades weekly. Missing work will be accepted with a 10% penalty each day it is late. Missing assignments will not be accepted after 1 week of it being assigned unless prior arrangements have been made. Grades cannot be changed after a quarter has ended. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the instructor to schedule a make-up test or quiz and to get missing work.



Homework Policy

There will be one homework assignment every week. This assignment will be given out at the beginning of every week (usually Monday) and is due at the end of the week (usually Friday). It is my recommendation that you break up the assignment into smaller pieces throughout the week. Homework grades will follow the late/missing assignment policy.

Grading Scale

$$\frac{\textit{Points Earned}}{\textit{Total Points Possible}}$$

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

New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness

The New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness (**NMASR**) is New Mexico's new assessment of student proficiency in the NM STEM Ready! (Next Generation Science Standards). All students will take this test in their 8th grade year. This test provides information to guide curriculum and instruction and does not affect a student's grade or movement into high school. The test is cumulative, and is based on standards students should have covered in 6th, 7th and 8th grade science.

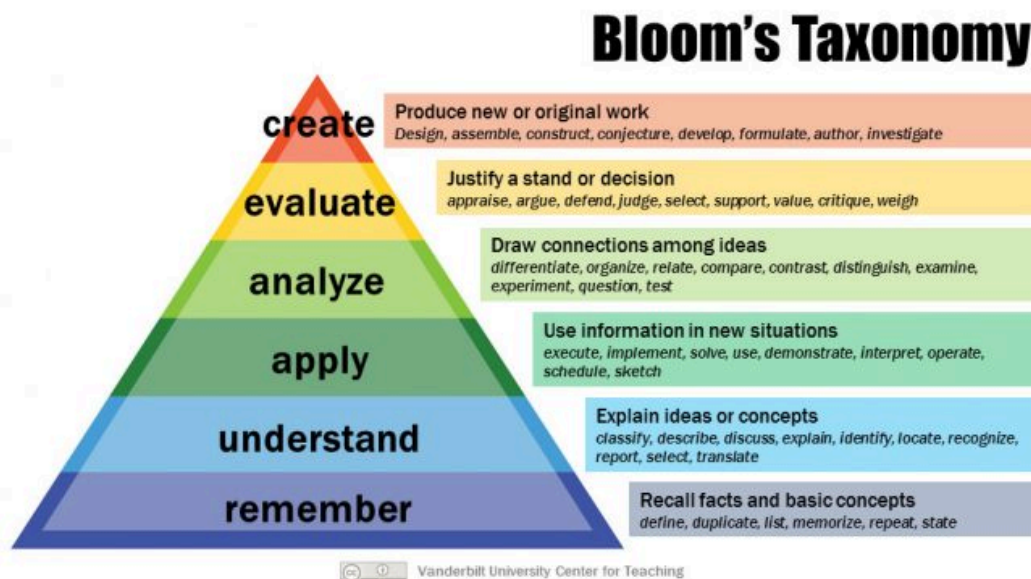
Middle School Commitment

Middle school classes are typically designed to challenge students with a curriculum that will prepare you for high school. How well you do in

high school can influence the opportunities that are made available to you. As a young adult, you will be expected to take on more responsibilities and to be more self-sufficient. This class is no different, in order to succeed you must try and above all advocate for yourself. I tend to be more helpful to those who put in an honest effort. Show; don't tell me you want to succeed. It is my hope that you will leave middle school with the skills you will need to be strong and independent adults.

Bloom's Taxonomy

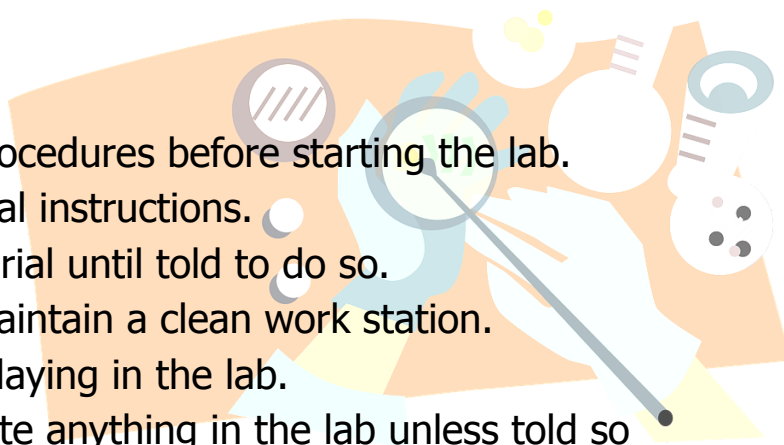
In one sentence, Bloom's taxonomy is a hierarchical ordering of cognitive skills that can help teachers teach and students to learn. In this class we will explore each level of Bloom's taxonomy to help develop your scientific skills and literacy.



Lab Safety Contract

General Lab Procedures:

1. Read the directions and procedures before starting the lab.
2. Follow all written and verbal instructions.
3. Do not touch any lab material until told to do so.
4. Dress appropriately and maintain a clean work station.
5. No Running; Pushing, or Playing in the lab.
6. Do NOT eat or drink or taste anything in the lab unless told so by the teacher.
7. Be aware of your surroundings. Many lab accidents happen because someone is not paying attention.
8. Be knowledgeable of what to do if an accident occurs.
9. Clean your lab station for the next group.



Before the Lab

Tie long hair back or away from face
No loose hanging clothing or jewelry
Wear closed-toe shoes
Wear safety goggles/protective gear
Only necessary materials at lab station

In case of Emergency

Remove self from spaces
Alert teacher immediately
Assist teacher if asked

Consequences

First offense will result in a warning to stop infraction.

Second offense will result in removal from the lab and loss of participation points.

Multiple offenses will result in parent contact and potential removal from subsequent labs. An alternative assignment will be provided.

Technology Contract

- I understand that phones should be put in the designated location while in class.
- I will use all forms of technology only when accessing course materials and agree to abide by school policies when making any posts.
- I will refrain from using websites such as wikipedia and info.com when completing research.
- I will provide proper citations for any accessed information.
- I understand that if I use my technology in non-learning mode, while in class, the consequences are as follows:
 1. On the first offense, the student will be given a warning.
 2. On the second offense, the phone will be confiscated for the duration of class.
 3. On the third offense, the phone will be confiscated and will result in parent/guardian contact.
 4. Any further offenses will be handled with the help of administrative staff.
- I understand that if I choose to post materials or comments that do not follow school policy, I am subject to the consequences laid out in the student handbook.

Syllabus Lab Safety & Technology Contract

Please read the following statements with your student. Initial in the correct location after reading each statement. Parents/Guardians please initial the contract alongside your student.

P/G	Student	
_____	_____	I have read and fully understand the class syllabus.
_____	_____	I have read and understand the lab safety policy.
_____	_____	I understand I should bring a charged chromebook to class daily, even if it is not used in class.
_____	_____	I have accessed Google classroom.
_____	_____	I understand the technology contract.
_____	_____	I understand that anything I post on any class/school online platforms must follow the PAPA's rules of conduct.

Student Name Printed: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

P/G Signature: _____ Date: _____