

7/8 Science Classroom Syllabus

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Room: M14 Office Hours: Wednesday Lunch
 Parent/Teacher Conference Availability: Please contact MS Office

Class Curriculum

Life Science, 8th Grade

- Sci Method/Lab skills
- Cell Biology
- Genetics
- Evolution
- Anatomy and Physiology

Earth Science, 7th Grade

- Sci Method/Lab Skills
- Minerals/Rocks/Weathering/Erosion
- Geologic Time/Plate Tectonics/Earthquakes & Volcanoes
- Oceans/Atmosphere/Global Climate Change

Required Materials: Students will need the following materials EVERY DAY.

- Your textbook!
- Blue or Black PEN, a sharpened PENCIL, and a RED grading pen.
- Every student must have a 1 ½ inch 3-ring binder with 5 sections in it for Science:
 - Section 1: Bellwork & Blank Notebook Paper
 - Section 2: Class Notes
 - Section 3: Vocabulary
 - Section 4: Classwork
 - Section 5: Labs



Class Expectations

- **Be FROGS!**
 - Follow directions, all the time, every time!
 - Respect the feelings, possessions, space & ideas of others.
 - Obtain your materials before class & clean up after class.
 - Give me a hand before you speak or need to get up!
 - Speak in ENGLISH.
- **Be ON TIME**
 - You will not be given credit for bellwork if you are tardy.
- **Follow the Manual de Convivencia in everything!**



Behavior Consequences

- 1st warning (Name on Board)
- 2nd warning (Name with check): -5 % behavior grade, Lunch Detention/Reflection form
- 3rd warning (Name with 2 checks): ALL of the above + immediate referral to Principal for after-school detention.
 - *Three lunch detentions in one week (M-F) will result in an after-school detention.
 - * Multiple Offenses will result in a parent-teacher-principal conference.

Grading Policy

- Your grade will be calculated as follows:
 - 30% Labs & Projects
 - 30% Tests
 - 20% Homework & Classwork
 - 10% Bellwork/Binder Organization
 - 10 % Final Exam
- We will follow COJOWA's grading system
 - 90%-100% = A
 - 80%-89% = B
 - 70%-79% = C
 - 69% and under = F
- Grades will be sent to your email at least once per month

LIFE SCIENCE

WHAT WILL WE LEARN THIS YEAR?

Trimester I, Cell Biology & Genetics: "Foundations of Living Things"

Cell Biology

- Recognize that all living things are made of cells.
- Recognize that within cells, many of the basic functions of organism are carried out (converting energy, chemical transport).
- Compare & contrast plant and animal cells, including major organelles.

Genetics

- Recognize that every organism requires a set of instructions (DNA) that specifies its traits.
- Recognize that hereditary information is contained in genes located on chromosomes in the cell.
- Compare sexual reproduction with asexual reproduction.

Trimester II, Evolution & Classification: "Living Things Changing Over Time"

Evolution

- Give examples of ways in which genetic variation and environmental factors are causes of evolution and the diversity of organisms.
- Recognize the evidence drawn from geology, fossils, and comparative anatomy provide the basis of the theory of evolution.
- Relate the extinction of species to a mismatch of adaptation and environment.
- Identify ways in which ecosystems have changed throughout geologic time in response to physical conditions and actions of humans.
- Recognize that biological evolution accounts for the diversity of species developed through gradual processes over many generations.

Classification of Organisms

- Classify organisms into the currently recognized kingdoms according to characteristics that they share.
- Be familiar with organisms from each kingdom.
- Explain how dead plants and animals are broken down by other living organisms and how this process contributes to the system as a whole.
- Recognize that producers use energy from sunlight to make sugars through photosynthesis.

Trimester III, Anatomy & Physiology: "Life as we know it now"

BODY STRUCTURE

- Describe the organization of the body.
- Explain how bones and muscles work together to provide the body with structure and function of movement.

NUTRITION AND DIGESTION

- Describe the process of digestion in the human body.
- Explain the function of each of the 6 major nutrients in the human body.

CIRCULATION & RESPIRATION

- Describe the process of circulation in the body.
- Describe the process of respiration in the body.

7/8 Science Class Procedures & Grading Guide

Homework Policy

- Homework will be assigned on a regular basis.
- All homework assignments must be completed in the HW notebook given to students at the beginning of the year.
- Students will correct HW at the beginning of each class period. For this reason, **NO late work will be accepted.**

How to label HW Assignments in your HW Notebook

- In your HW notebook, follow this example for EVERY assignment:
- You have two choices in how you can answer the questions –
 - Option #1: Write the question and the answer.
 - Option #2: Write a complete sentence that includes information from the question.

Grading Marks

All homework assignments are graded out of 5 points using a basic rubric:

- $\sqrt{-}$ If an assignment is completed, the minimum grade is a 3/5 (60% F) or “check minus.”
- $\sqrt{}$ If the student is completed and demonstrated some understanding of the concept/standard, he/she will receive a 4/5 (80% B) or “check.”
- $\sqrt{+}$ If the student demonstrated concept mastery, he/she will receive a 5/5 (100% A), or “check plus.”

Grading Abbreviations

Many times on labs or HW assignments, I will write notes so that you know why you were marked down. Refer to the abbreviations below to know what the notes mean.

- **EXP:** “Explain.” Student did not provide enough support from data or the textbook to show concept mastery.
- **DES:** “Describe.” Student did not provide enough detail in his/her description.
- **INC:** “Incomplete.” Student must come to recess or lunch to make-up missing parts of an assignment.
- **?:** “Question.” Student’s response did not make sense.
- **NE:** “Neatness.” Grade was decreased for neatness.
- **CR:** “Credit.” Participation grade given.
- **No CR:** “No Credit.” No participation grade given because the student did not complete an in-class assignment during the allotted time.

How do I make-up work if I'm ABSENT?

- Absent homework will only be accepted for QUALIFIED absences (you were sick, injured, run over by a wild elephant...)
- **ASK THREE, THEN ME....** This means ask 3 friends what you missed. If you’re still unclear as to what you missed, check the calendar on-line, then come and ask me.
- Pick up any class handouts or worksheets you missed from the ABSENT HANDOUTS FOLDERS, located on the door.
- You have the same # of days missed to make up any work- **TURN IN TO ABSENT MAKE-UP WORK BASKET** on bookshelf!! Make sure you write the word “ABSENT” at the top of your paper.
- There will be no lab make-ups. Missed labs will be given alternative assignments and/or projects to make-up the grade.

How do I make-up TESTS?

- Tests are given at the end of each unit.
- If you are absent the day of a test/quiz, you will need to make-up the test the SAME day you return to school at lunch. No exceptions.
- If you miss this test make-up opportunity, you are choosing to take an F as your grade. It is your responsibility to see me if you miss a test...don't forget!

NAME, #

Section Assessment,
Chapters 2, Section 3 #1-2

1. a.)

b.)

c.)

2. a.)

b.)

Lab Procedures

- At the beginning of each lab, I will assign a science lab supervisor for each lab station. ONLY the science lab supervisor may obtain materials during lab. This means that if you are not the S.L.S. you should ALWAYS be at your own lab station.
- Clean-Up Duties (to be shared by all members in your group): Your lab group will be dismissed from lab when you have completed the following:
 - Returned all glassware (beakers, graduated cylinders, etc.) CLEAN to the center of your lab table.
 - Returned all other lab materials to where you originally found it when you entered the lab.
 - Wiped down your lab table with a wet paper towel.
 - Put all of your stools upside down on the lab table.
 - Picked up all of your trash on the lab table and on the floor.

LAB RUBRIC - 7th and 8th Grade Science, COJOWA

- Remember, your lab work is worth 30% of your grade. That means that you need to take your lab experience VERY SERIOUSLY!
- Each lab report will be graded using the following rubric. Before you turn in a lab, be sure to check this rubric to make sure you have everything completed.
- You are allowed to work together to complete the *experiment*. **However, each INDIVIDUAL student is required to write his/her OWN hypothesis, results, and conclusions.** I want to know what YOU know, not what your other classmates know. *DO NOT COPY your friends' answers – you will be referred to the Principal for cheating, even if it's only one question!*

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
LAB WORK (4 points)	ALL of the following items were sufficiently met during lab work time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper preparation/dress • On-task, without reminders • Remained at assigned work station, unless given permission from teacher • Clean-Up procedures completed without reminders 	One of the items was insufficient	Two of the items was insufficient	All of the items were insufficient
COMPLETENESS (4 points)	All Lab Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "If-Then" HYPOTHESIS, • GRAPH with titles, labeled axes and colored bars/lines with key • RESULTS/CONCLUSIONS answered using complete sentences. <p>90-100% COMPLETE</p>	80-89% COMPLETE	70-79 % COMPLETE	LESS THAN 69% COMPLETE
COMPREHENSION (8 points)	Student answers exceeded the standard.	Student answers met the standard.	Student answers did not meet the standard.	Student answers were far below the standard.
NEATNESS (4 points)	Lab was exceptionally neat. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no watermarks, tears, rips, or major flaws in the paper. • Lab questions are typed. 	Lab was generally neat. There may be 1 SMALL flaw, but overall, appearance is good. Lab questions are typed.	Lab was acceptable , but messy. There may be 2 or 3 flaws. The overall appearance is average. Lab questions are not typed, but penmanship is neat.	Lab was unacceptably messy. There were rips, tears, water damage, etc. Overall, appearance is poor. Lab is not typed and penmanship needs improvement.

7/8 SCIENCE STUDENT CONTRACT

CLASSROOM AGREEMENT

Class Expectations

- Follow directions, all the time, every time!
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Behavior Consequences

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I, _____, *understand and agree to the class expectations and behavior consequences stated in the 2011-2012 Class Syllabus. I understand how I will be graded and what I need to bring to class everyday.*

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT SIGNATURE

DATE

LAB AGREEMENT

The following safety regulations must be observed at all times in the science laboratory.

1. **No playing, running, throwing lab materials or other injurious behavior** will be tolerated in the laboratory – especially irresponsible use of equipment. **Students involved in any of the above behaviors will immediately be removed from lab and will receive a “1” on his/her lab grade for that lab.**
2. All accidents/injuries must be reported to the teacher **immediately**.
3. **Never eat or drink** in the laboratory. Do not taste or touch chemicals unless specifically instructed to do so.
4. **Utilize all safety equipment**, including safety **goggles** and/or safety aprons.
5. **Know the location** of fire extinguisher/blanket, first aid kit, eyewash, safety shower.
6. **Dress appropriately** for laboratory work. Closed toed shoes must be worn. Confine long hair or loose clothing.
7. **Use burners with caution** as demonstrated by the instructor. Wet a match before throwing it in the trashcan.
8. **Properly dispose of all materials**. Place solid waste in the trashcan and liquids according to teacher instructions.
9. **Do not enter lab prep** or storage areas without permission from instructor.
10. **Stay and work in your assigned group**.
11. After each lab, **wash all equipment and tabletops**. Clear the floor of any trash or debris. Push in lab stool under the table.
12. **Use common sense**. Use caution when carrying laboratory equipment to/from the lab stations.
13. **Return all equipment** to proper locations when the lab is complete.

ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A SIGNED SAFETY CONTRACT ON FILE TO PARTICIPATE IN LAB ACTIVITIES.

I, _____, have read and understand the safety rules listed. I agree to follow these rules and will conduct myself in a professional, responsible manner at all times. **I will have to replace any broken equipment, even if it was an accident.** I agree to protect myself using safety equipment/procedures while in the laboratory. *I realize that if I disregard this contract, I will not be permitted to take part in laboratory activities, which may affect my science grade.*

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date