Middle School Science

Period 6
Middle School

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Divine Room 236

Course Description

Welcome to Middle School Science! The middle school science program includes an overview of physical, life, and earth and space science to prepare students for high school credit classes. Students will study the natural world and current events in science through phenomenon- and inquiry-based learning. The goal is for students to become familiar with science concepts and processes, tools used in the field of science, and continue to be curious about the natural world and engage in science literacy.

Objectives:

- Build a scientific skill set
- Ability to ask questions and evaluate the questions
- Learn and see through the lenses of different disciplines of science

Required Materials

- Bring an attitude that shows you are ready to learn.
- Notebooks (College ruled)
- Highlighters
- Pencils and colored pencils
- Chromebook (provided by WSD)
- Water Bottle for drinking

Curriculum Materials

- Kesler Science Curriculum
- Supplemental materials

Classroom Expectations

- **TERRIER PRIDE RULES**
  - Respect yourself
  - Respect others
  - Respect property

- **TARDY** -- If a student is late, a blue slip is required in order to be excused. If a blue slip is not provided, the student will be considered tardy. Three tardies or greater may result in disciplinary action.

- **ABSENCES** -- It is the student's responsibility to see me for missed information or assignment. The student is expected to make up missed assignments within a reasonable time frame.

- **MAKE UP / LATE WORK:** Makeup work will be accepted, but there will be quarterly deadlines. Work assigned during the first quarter will not be accepted during the second quarter, and so forth.

- **ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Cell phones and tablets are not permitted during school hours. Students will be asked to put their cell phones in a designated location. Chromebooks will be provided for schoolwork only.

- **FOOD POLICY:** Food will not be allowed in the classroom.

Grading Policy

- **75% of the grade will be graded on assignments and participation**
- **20% of the grade will be graded on projects**
- **5% of the grade will be graded on quizzes**

Letter grade	Percent ranges	Scale value	General rubric
A	93-100	4.0	Exceeds expectations
A-	90-92.9	3.7	
B+	87-89.9	3.3	
B	83-86.9	3.0	Meets expectations
B-	80-82.9	2.7	
C+	77-79.9	2.3	
C	73-76.9	2.0	Approaching expectations
C-	70-72.9	1.7	
D+	67-69.9	1.3	
D	60-66.9	1.0	Does not meet expectations
F	<60	0	No evidence

Extra Assistance
If a student feels that extra assistance is needed, email me, leave a message via videophone, write a letter, or make an appointment to come see me. I am here to help out!

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidelines

- Teachers may use these AI levels, shown below, to communicate their expectations for students' use of AI to complete various creative assignments in and out of the classroom.
- If a teacher has yet to specifically indicate whether generative AI is recommended or permitted for an assignment, students should ask before using generative AI.
- When generative AI is recommended or permitted, **students should rely on their classroom teacher for further guidance on the extent to which they may use it in the context of the specific assignment.**

AI Recommended	AI Permitted	AI Restricted
Generative AI is recommended for use in completing this assignment or project. Students are encouraged to explore AI tools and techniques to enhance their work. Properly cite any AI-generated work products.	Generative AI is permitted but not required for completing this assignment or project. Students can choose to use AI tools and techniques if they believe it will improve their work. Properly cite any AI-generated work products.	Generative AI use in completing this assignment or project is restricted. Students are expected to complete the work using only their own knowledge and skills.

This code of conduct is intended to guide students in using Artificial Intelligence responsibly and ethically in their academic work and projects. Teachers may use the AI Levels to classify assignments or projects as needed and should provide students with clear expectations for when AI is appropriate, permitted, or restricted. AI must be consistent with the district's expectations regarding academic integrity. **Misuse of generative AI may be considered cheating or plagiarism.**