

6th Grade Science Syllabus 2021-2022

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6th Grade Students:

This course will assist you in becoming a life-long learner who grows in your understanding of the world. The nature of science lends itself to inquiry- based, constructivist learning... this simply means that YOU are in charge of your learning. Science can provide explanations about nature, and can predict potential consequences of actions, as we will see demonstrated every day.

This year, you will be exploring a variety of topics including, but not limited to, energy forms and conversions, ecological interdependence, major biomes, ocean currents, weather, and how humans impact the environment, both positively and negatively.

Classroom Expectations:

1. **Come to class prepared!** *Every day* you should come to class with a writing utensil (pencil preferred), Chromebook, and your updated notebook for this class, earbuds, colored pencils, and your science folder.
2. **You will have an interactive notebook (INB) for this class.** Be sure to update it daily. It is absolutely essential that you have daily access to this notebook and keep it updated. I will not surprise you with a random notebook check- those dates will be announced and posted on Managebac. On the assigned dates, points will be deducted for missing pages, assignments, activities, etc.
3. **Prepare well for tests.** Your tests will be based on notes given in class (and posted on Managebac). Your success in this class is based on your attention during class, study time at home, and effort put forth in keeping up with your notebook. Be responsible by asking questions during class (or send me a Remind text or email) to help clarify anything you do not understand. A study guide will be given to help you prepare for tests. I will post a Quizlet on Managebac for vocabulary practice.
4. **IF YOU ARE ABSENT: YOU are responsible for getting your missed work!** Check Managebac first for missed work.

Grading is based on the following scales:

QUARTER GRADING

Tests/Assessments	50%
Quiz/Labs	25%
Classwork	15%
Homework	10%

(Homework is 10% of this category)

FINAL GRADE BREAKDOWN

Semester 1+2	50% each
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TCAP testing averaged into Sem.2 grade per HCDE

A	93-100
B	85-92
C	75-84
D	70-74

6. Laboratory rules must be followed at all times. A separate sheet requiring a student and parent signature is part of this syllabus. This will be turned in to me during class. Failure to follow lab rules will result in a zero grade for the assignment with the possibility of further consequences depending on the nature of the incident. If you do not turn in your lab sheet signed by a parent/guardian, you will not be able to participate in lab activities during class. You will receive an alternate assignment as a substitute for that activity.

7. In my classroom, the following are prohibited at all times:

1. Gum, food, and drinks (with the exception of a water bottle with a screw top)- LAB POLICY- Please notify me if you have a medical exception. No glass water bottles allowed in the classroom of ANY kind. Please bring a plastic or metal water bottle that has a lid that closes well.
2. Cell phones (or any other technological device) usage unrelated to class (See SMMHS cell phone policy)
3. Fighting, negative attitudes, and disrespect (towards me or other students)
4. Academic Dishonesty- refer to SMMHS handbook
5. Leaving class without permission or without signing out

8. Electronic Devices: Students may only bring Chromebooks to class. Cell phones should be kept in backpacks and turned off or on silent. If a student is found using a cell phone, Apple watch, or other communication device in a non-educational and/or inappropriate manner, it will be subject to the school-wide electronic device discipline policy. Additionally, misconduct reports, non-web based assignments or a discipline referral may be assigned to the student at my discretion. There are no exceptions to this policy- we will not be using cell phones for activities in class.

***Parents and students should sign up for Remind updates using the codes found on Managebac

Please review this syllabus with your parents/guardians. It is very important that you understand my expectations so you can have the best experience possible in my class! I will strive to teach you as much as possible this year, and we will have some fun in the process!

Sincerely,

Jessica Patterson
SMMHS Science Department