7th Grade Science Syllabus



Manson Middle School

**Course Overview**

In this class we will discover what it means to be a scientist by asking questions, investigating problems, designing experiments, creating models, and learning how to analyze and interpret data to draw conclusions about scientific phenomena. Some of the topics we will cover this year include Earth’s Dynamic Systems, Space Systems Exploration, and Weather and Climate.

**Course Set-Up and Resources**

The students will keep and *Interactive Science Notebook (ISN)* which will be their main resource for the class. Everything from labs to vocabulary to notes will go in the ISN. It is important that each student keeps their ISN organized and up to date in order to succeed in this class.

Much of this course will be labs and projects with some information coming from notes. We will be using science kits and textbooks from the Smithsonian Science Education Center.

**Grading**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Standards | 80% |  | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | F |
| Organization-  Interactive Student Notebook | 10% |  | 94%-100% | 90%-93% | 87%-89% | 84%-86% | 80%-83% | 76%-79% | 72%--75% | 68%-71% | >67% |
| Responsibility-  Leadership and Employability Skills | 10% |  | 4 | 3 | 2 | | | 1 | | | 0 |
|  |  |  | 100% | 80-99% | 61-79% | | | >60% | | | 0 |
|  |  |  | Above standard | At standard | Approaching standard | | | Below Standard | | | No evidence |

Student grades are primarily entered as 4, 3, 2, 1 or 0. Students will be provided with rubrics for assessments and assignments. Science standard grades are based on Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

**Classroom Expectations**

* I am **prepared**. When class begins please pull out the necessary materials and begin working on the entry task every day.
* I am **respectful** in your attitude and words to your classmates and to Mrs. Johanson. Please also respect the classroom by picking up after yourself. Water is okay.
* I am **responsible** by making good choices in class every day including placing your cell phone away during class time unless used as a tool at times specified by Mrs. Johanson.
  + Away means out of sight and earshot – Mrs. Johanson is picky about this!
  + Mrs. Johanson will be happy to help you practice this responsibility by safely storing your phone in her desk if you choose to not put it away. If this happens more than once, it will go to the office and your parent/guardian is welcome to pick it up at their convenience.

**Restroom/Hallway Pass.** Every student at the start of the trimester will receive 3 hallway passes which they can use at their discretion throughout the trimester. These can be used for the restroom, the water fountain, a mental break or anything else. Students will write their names on the ticket and hand to Mrs. Johanson as they walk quietly out. They can be used at any time **except** during direct instruction or tests. Extra hallway passes at the end of the trimester can be entered into the “Terrific Trimester” drawing.

**Classwork and Late work.** On-time work is necessary for full credit on your responsibility grade. Work between 2 and 5 days late will result in a 20% deduction and any work turned in later can only receive up to 50% credit. Late work will be collected up to 1 week before the end of the trimester.

**End of Class.** Students will be dismissed only by the direction of Mrs. Johanson. “When you are ready to go, please stand behind your pushed in chair”.

**Tardy/Absence Policies**: Two free tardies per trimester without consequence. Every tardy thereafter will result in lunch detention with Mrs. Kronbauer. Students with excused absences will have the same number of days missed to make up their work. Unexcused absentees will be expected to turn things in on time.

**Johanson Contact Information:**

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| Email: [ajohanson@manson.org](mailto:ajohanson@manson.org) | Phone: 509.687.9585 EXT 517 |
| Image result for science clip artInstaGram: @johanson\_class |  |

**Open Door Policy**

Parents and students are *always* welcome to visit me in my classroom before or after school. If a formal meeting must take place feel free to contact me via email.

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Student Signature Date Parent Signature Date