

Sixth Grade Science – Syllabus

Teacher: L. Drumgoole, Team Denali

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Conference Time: 2:45-4:00

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Description:

Sixth grade students will cover Nature of Science, Physical Science, Life Science, and Earth Science concepts. Refer to www.mansfieldisd.org, departments, curriculum, Science for Scope and Sequence

Course Information:

By the end of the sixth grade, students will be able to:

- Gather, analyze and interpret information using selected equipment and tools to extend the senses, including graduated cylinders, beakers, calculators, microscopes, computers and computer probes, hand lenses, metric rulers, thermometers, compasses, hot plates meter sticks, timing devices, weather instruments, petri dishes, spring scales, balances, and telescopes.
- Plan and implement investigative procedures including asking questions, formulating testable hypotheses, and selecting and using equipment and technology.
- Collect, analyze, and interpret information to construct reasonable explanations from direct and indirect evidence.
- Communicate valid conclusions by constructing graphs, tables, and charts with the correct positioning of X and Y axis.
- Identify independent and dependent variables in an experiment.
- Analyze different representation of the same data and evaluate their work and the work of others.
- Conduct field and laboratory by safely handling of equipment, use of protective eyewear, following verbal and written directions, and practice of safety drills effectively.)
- Build and expand scientific vocabulary in order, to increase fluency and understanding by incorporating it into their everyday speaking, listening, and writing routines.

Material Requirements:

All students will be required to maintain a planner for recording assignments and homework. A composition book will be used to organize and record class information and lab reports. : 1 subject spiral notebook, plastic folder, glue/glue sticks, map colors, pencils, notebook paper

Textbook:

<https://ali5.acceleratelearning.com/> will be used as an online textbook as well as online homework. If a student does not have internet capability, paper copies will be available. Technology related issues will not be an excuse for late homework. Therefore, it is imperative for students to begin and complete their assignments in a timely manner before the due date.

Course Calendar/Schedule: *Course Calendar is subject to change as needed.*

<u>Semester 1</u>		<u>Semester 2</u>	
Lab Safety		Physics	
Chemistry/Properties of Matter		Energy	
Earth Science		Life Science (Cells and Environment)	
Space Exploration		STEM	

Curriculum Based Assessment Testing Schedule:

Chemistry Oct 10-12	Earth Nov 14-16	Space Dec 14-18	Physics Feb 20-22
Energy April 3-5	Life Science May 15-17		

Class Participation:

Students are expected to get involved in discussions and experiments, volunteer, ask questions, share ideas and observations, and contribute to group activities.

Lab Safety:

Students are expected to learn and follow general safety guidelines to keep the lab a safe place. Goggles will be worn when directed by the teacher. Closed toe shoes (NOT sandals) must be worn in the lab to prevent injury. Horseplay is not allowed. Additional precautions will be announced prior to certain experiments. Students who choose not to follow all safety rules will be removed from the activity.

*Lab safety contracts and a lab safety quiz must be completed/passed (100% or above) to receive a lab license. A lab license is required to participate in a lab.

Missed Exams/Assignments Regarding Tardies and Absences:

Students can makeup assignments or tests after tardies/absences. Students will have the same number of days they are absent to make up work. Students should consult with the teacher after an absence to identify work that needs to be completed. It is the student's responsibility to get the assignments from the teacher.

Homework-free extended holidays: (Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break)

Late Work:

- 1 class day late – grade may be reduced up to 15 points
- 2 class days late- grade may be reduced up to 30 points.
- 3 class days late – teacher discretion

Grade categories:

- 50% - Daily Assignments/Quizzes
- 40% - Major Tests/Projects
- 10% - Homework

Grades Per 6 Weeks:

- 8 Minimum
- 2 Minimum
- 2 Minimum

Intermediate School Grading Guidelines: Teachers shall determine student progress using a grading scale of 0-100.

90-100 = A	70-79 = C	E = Excellent	S = Satisfactory
80-89 = B	Below 70 = Failing	N = Needs Improvement	U = Unsatisfactory

I = Incomplete ("I" is not an academic grade, but indicates incomplete work.)

Posting Student Work:

Skyward is our online grade book. Student grades and assignments are updated each week. Special consideration is given to major projects. Parents may set up a Skyward account to check grades from home.

Test Re-Take Policy:

Students who fail a test or major project (below 70%) will be allowed to retake or correct for up to a 70%. Students will have to make arrangements with the teacher to retake or correct any major assignment before the end of the Instructional Period. Students are encouraged to attend tutorials.

Homework: Incomplete classwork will be completed as homework. Other homework assignments will also be given.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Students will be expected to actively participate in class on a daily basis through reading, discussion, taking notes, labs, and keeping their Science Interactive Notebook updated. Not actively participating may result in earning a lower grade on tests, notebook checks, and Lab assignments.

UIL Eligibility ("No Pass/No Play"):

- Each six week grading period will stand alone for eligibility purposes.
- A student who is declared academically ineligible after a six week grading period will be able to regain eligibility if all of the student's grade averages are 70% or higher at the subsequent 3 week grade reporting period.

Academic Dishonesty:

A student found committing plagiarism, cheating or aiding in cheating will receive a grade of zero on the assignment and the teacher will contact the parent. Cheating will include being in possession of another student's assignment without the teacher's permission. Please see the student handbook for further information.

Available Support Services: Mrs. Burton is available by appointment for student support/tutoring. Library resources enhance classroom studies and are available for check out and use.