

Sixth Grade Science – Syllabus

Teacher: Mercy Thomasson, Team Anchorage
Conference Time: 2:45-3:55

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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 (Force and Motion)	
Chemistry/Properties of Matter		Energy	
Earth Science		Earth Science	
Space		Biology	

Curriculum Based Assessment Testing Schedule:

Chemistry Oct 8-10	Earth Nov 13-15	Space Dec 13-18	Physics Feb 25-28
Energy April 7-9			

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 test 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 have one extra day for each day they were absent to complete a missed assignment. Students will receive a grade of “1” in the gradebook to signify they were absent on the day the assignment was given. Student will receive correct grade when that assignment is turned in. Arrangements for taking a missed test or quiz must be made with the teacher. 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 10 points
- 2 class days late- grade may be reduced up to 20 points.
- 3 class days late – teacher discretion

Grade categories:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| • 50% - Daily Assignments/Quizzes | 2 Minimum |
| • 40% - Major Tests/Projects | 2 Minimum |
| • 10% - Homework | 2 Minimum |

10 (minimum) Grades per 6 Weeks with no less than 2 in each category:

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.)

No Pass No Play:

Student grades will be monitored weekly. In the event that a student is not passing a class, they will be given an opportunity, during their recess time, to makeup missing assignments or correct major assessments.

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: Ms. Thomasson is available by appointment for student support/tutoring. Library resources enhance classroom studies and are available for check out and use.