

7th Grade Comprehensive Science

Syllabus

Mr. Sprayberry, Room 8-109

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Supplies you will need

- 100 sheet **plastic cover** spiral notebook dedicated to this Science class
- Pencils
- Markers or colored pens or colored pencils
- Highlighters
- Glue sticks
- Headphones (wired)
- Chromebook Laptop computer (the school will provide one)

Attendance and Tardiness

It is very important to be in class, on time, every day. Remember that each day in class, you will learn important skills that are critical to understanding the lessons given on subsequent days. Missing even one day can set you behind, and it can be difficult to catch up. When scheduling appointments and other activities try not to miss science class.

Beginning of Class

When you enter the classroom, take care of class prep business like sharpen pencils and get out your computer, then have a seat. Once prepared for class, chatting or socializing is ok, but when the bell rings, class has started and you must be in your seat ready to work. Sometimes, there may be a short assignment or “Starter Task” waiting for you when you enter the room. You should be working on this task when the bell rings.

Textbook

We will be distributing “consumable” textbooks. We will keep the books in the classroom so your book will be here when you need it, yet you do not have to tote it around all day. You may take your book home at any time to finish an assignment or study, just be sure to bring it back.

Your “consumable” textbook is a bit different than a traditional textbook; this textbook is yours to keep as long as you like. When studying from it you are encouraged to write in it, take notes in it, highlight in it, and answer questions by marking right in the book.

Science Notebook

We will be creating a fun Science Notebook throughout the year using your 100-page spiral notebook and glue sticks and colored inks. Many assignments will be recorded in your notebook and self-graded according to certain requirements. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU GET A NOTEBOOK!**

Make-up Work

When you are absent, **MAKE-UP WORK IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!** Our on-line platform, Canvas, will do a great job of tracking when assignments are due, so be sure to keep up with those due dates.

Missed tests and quizzes must be made up immediately after an absence. If you miss a test review day, you must take the test with the class.

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Grading

There are two main categories of grades.

- 1) Tests, Quizzes, Projects, and Labs will collectively count for 70% of your grade.
- 2) Classwork, Homework, and Participation will collectively count for 30% of your grade.

Grading scale

The state grading scale is used: A: 100- 90 B: 89- 80 C: 79- 70 D: 69-60 F: 59- 0

Class Rules

- **Be Prepared** and ready for class. Bring your materials for class.
- **Be Respectful** and kind to other Students, to your Teacher, and to yourself. Also respect other's property. Say nice things to people, not cut-downs or insults.
- **Raise your hand** to ask or answer questions. We will often have open discussions about science in class where this is not necessary, but during instruction, we must raise our hands. This keeps classroom order and allows everyone to participate.
- **Be Safe** by following lab rules, staying calm, and taking measures to ensure safety in the classroom.

Violation of Class Rules will result in consequences that escalate with multiple infractions. Parents will be contacted and involved when multiple violations occur.

Encouragement

I want to help you succeed. I am here to help you work hard and learn. I am here to teach you to become an excellent student. I have high expectations of you in Science this year. I believe in you. I care about you. I am confident that you will succeed. Pay attention, listen carefully, participate, work hard, and be safe. YOU WILL DO GREAT!!!

Class Schedule of Topics (the Topic # matches the chapter in Textbook)

1st Nine Weeks	Special Topic: Lab Safety & Nature of Science (Experiments) Topic #1: Thermal Energy and Heat Flow
2nd Nine Weeks	Topic #2: Waves and Light Topic #5: Geological Time Topic #3: Earth's Layers
3rd Nine Weeks	Topic #4: Plate Tectonics Topic #6: Human Impacts on the Environment Topic #7: Heredity and Reproduction (DNA, Genes, Genetics)
4th Nine Weeks	Topic #8: Diversity and Evolution (Change Over Time) Topic #9: Ecosystems Special Topic: Human Growth & Development