



Materials Needed

- Spiral notebook, plastic cover, 100 pages
- Plenty of #2 pencils!
- Small 3 ring binder for tests/handouts or larger binder to also hold spiral notebook
- Colored pencils (small set)
- Notebook paper
- Lab fee of \$10 (make checks payable to Montford Middle School, please do not combine with other school fees) All money collected will be spent on the students through the purchase of lab consumables.

A. Major Concepts: The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study concepts of physical science, earth science and life science and their applications to everyday life.

The content should include, but not be limited to:

- The practice of science
- The characteristics of scientific knowledge
- The role of theories, laws, hypotheses, and models
- Science and society
- Genetics and animal reproduction
- The earth's structure and evolution
- Light, sound and other energy forms

The goal of the Montford Middle School Science Department is to promote enthusiasm and a love for science evidenced by the students and modeled by the teachers. The science experience at Montford will optimize traditional learning with hands on activities, media and technology to entice all learners and enhance student understanding as evidenced by annual learning gains on Pre and Post Grade Level tests.

The textbook we will use is Florida Science Course Level 2 (Glencoe).

B. Course Requirements: These requirements include, but are not limited to, the benchmarks from the New Generation Sunshine State Standards that are relevant to this course.

C. Course Schedule: This class follows the Leon County Pacing Guide as closely as possible. Weekly lessons will be posted on my homepage one week in advance.

D. Grading

The school grading scale is as follows:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
< 60%	F

All assessments, labs, and class work are awarded a specific number of points based on complexity and role in the learning process for the 7th grade. Once entered into our grading program, these points are weighted as follows:

❖ Assessments and special projects	70%
❖ Labs / Classwork / Homework	30%

E. Posting Grades

Grades will be posted promptly and viewed in real time.

F. Assignments and Homework: Work for each grading period will include (but not be limited to) daily work, homework, lab reports, tests and projects. Homework is often assigned on Monday and due on Thursday. This allows for special accommodations and encourages the student to budget their time accordingly. Homework assignments will include (but not be limited to) reading, reviewing materials, completing projects and preparing for tests. Unfinished class work is considered additional homework and is due the day after it is taken home. Occasionally weekend homework may be necessary for completion of projects and/or assignments. Each assignment will be posted on the board and on my web site. Students are expected to turn their assignments in on time. **Late work will be penalized or not be accepted.**

G. Absenteeism: Students will receive full credit for assignments and tests completed after an excused absence provided the work is completed within a reasonable time (typically 2 days for each day absent). It is the student's responsibility to obtain the make-up work from me. Remember that by accessing my homepage online, you can view what is planned for each day.

H. Classroom Guidelines: To create an environment for learning, students are expected to:

- ❖ Come to class on time and prepared (pencils sharpened, paper available, homework done)
- ❖ Show respect and consideration to fellow students and teacher
- ❖ Listen attentively while others are speaking
- ❖ Raise their hand for permission to speak or to leave their seat
- ❖ Follow lab safety rules
- ❖ Turn work in on time
- ❖ Use class time responsibly to complete assignments

I. Discipline:

- ❖ First infraction, verbal warnings
- ❖ Second infraction, student/teacher conference
- ❖ Third infraction, contact parent
- ❖ Finally, if the misbehavior continues, written referral to administration

Other interventions may include time out in the classroom or another room.

J. Citizenship: A student's citizenship grade will be based on his/her adherence to school and team rules, classroom behavior and participation in class.

4- Outstanding	Consistently good, on task behavior. Shows excellent self-discipline, participation and preparation. Follows rules.
3- Satisfactory	Generally, follows rules and stays on task but may need occasional teacher reminders.
2- Needs Improvement	Does not follow school or class rules. Disrespectful of others and their learning time. Requires frequent teacher reminders to stay on task or correct behavior.
1- Unsatisfactory	Frequent Unexcused tardiness. Disrespectful and disruptive, does not stay on task or follow school/classroom rules. Does not show improvement after teacher, parent, or administration intervention.

Thank you for taking the time to read over the class information letter. If you have any concerns, contact me at corbinb@leonschools.net.

Brian Corbin