



Sixth Grade Science Syllabus, 2019-2020

Teacher: Mrs. Danielle Cate

Course Overview: The Knox County Sixth Grade Science Curriculum is organized into the following content:

- Module 1: Ecosystems and Biodiversity – includes interactions among organisms, energy transfers, biomes, and impacts on environments (12 weeks)
- Module 2: Energy – includes earth’s resources, different types of energy, and energy transformations (6 weeks)
- Module 3: Earth’s Systems – includes ocean currents, convection, water cycle, weather, and weather predictions (7 weeks)
- Module 4: Earth and Human Activity – includes designing and evaluating solutions to environmental issues (1 week)

Textbook: Pearson Tennessee Interactive Science

Required Materials

- Composition notebook
- Two pocket folder with prongs
- Scissors
- Liquid glue/glue sticks (Liquid glue works better for science journals.)
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Pencils & notebook paper

Classroom Rules

1. Follow directions quickly.
2. Communicate respectfully.
3. Make responsible choices.
4. Keep your classroom happy.

Behavior Policy: In order to maximize instruction and maintain a quality learning environment for all students, it is imperative that the classroom rules are followed. The following behavior policy will be implemented to ensure maximum learning!

- Students begin each day with 1 point by showing up for class. It is their job to keep that point. At the end of each month, we will have a **reward day!**

- Students who have earned enough points *by percentage* get to participate in the reward day. The percentage will start at smaller and the beginning of the year and increase as the year goes on.
- Students may earn extra points by scoring 100% on test/quiz and/or demonstrating the Panther Promise tenants (Partner with others, Pursue my goals, Practice kindness, Pick a positive attitude)
- Students may lose their point by failing to follow classroom rules and procedures.
- If students lose their daily point and continue to ignore classroom rules, it may result in silent lunch, discipline log, and/or parent contact.
- Major offenses will result in automatic office referrals.

Grading: The Knox County grading scale will be used.

A 93-100	B 92-85	C 84-75	D 74-70	U 69 and below
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All grades will be taken out of 100 points. Two categories will be used. Major grades including tests, quizzes, and projects will account for 60% of the average. Minor grades including classwork, homework, and journals will account for 40% of the average. Re-do work will not be allowed.

Extra Help: Extra help will be available during homeroom time each morning and during Panther Pause once a week. Students should contact me if additional help is needed outside of those times.

Makeup Work: Attendance is an important contribution to a grade. Keep in mind even if students make up classwork, they likely missed important discussions or in class activities that cannot be made up at home. If a student is absent, it is his or her responsibility to find out what was missed. Students have the same number of days to make up work as the number of days missed. If your child is absent more than three days, you may request to pick up work in the office.

Homework: In science class, homework will consist mainly of completing an assignment that was started in class. A student who uses his/her class time will have less science homework to complete. Your child should have some science homework. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Missing Work: Assignments should be turned in on time! A student who does not have his/her work is not prepared for discussion of the topic. Late work will receive partial credit. If a student does not have his/her work for the day, the student will lose the daily point. After 3 late/missing assignments, students will be entered into the discipline log for every additional late assignment.

Cheating or Copying: There is a distinct difference between helping another student with an assignment and giving the student the answers. Any student caught cheating, whether it be copying the answers off another student's paper or allowing another student to copy his/her paper, will receive a zero on the assignment, and a referral will be sent home for a parent to sign and return to the teacher.

Supplementary Resources: BBC Planet Earth, Life and Blue Planet DVD's , Our Planet, Eyewitness and Discovery Videos, United streaming videos and clips, Bill Nye the Science Guy, Discovery Education, National Geographic, Brain Pop, Study Jams, various reference books in the classroom and library , various scientific internet websites , various periodicals such as National Geographic

During celebration days the following movies may be used: October Sky, Home Alone, Elf, Eight Below, Night at the Museum series, The Sandlot series, Remember the Titans, Cool Runnings, FernGully.

If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make a request to me in writing and an alternative assignment will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity in which you do not want your child to participate, and the nature of your objection.

Communication: Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Clear communication between home and school is a major key to success for your child this year!

Ways to communicate:

- **Email** Danielle.cate@knoxschools.org
- **School website:** www.knoxschools.org/powellms
- **School phone:** 938-9008
- **Remind 101:**
 - Standard Science: text @catescie to 81010
 - Honors Science: text @19catehon to 81010

I am looking forward to a great year working with you and your student! Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this page to indicate that you have read and understand all the policies outlined in the syllabus for Mrs. Cate's science class.

Student Name _____

Class Period _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____