

Sixth Grade Syllabus: Integrated Science (2019-2020)

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COURSE OUTCOME

Course Description: This is an integrated course covering topics from energy, interactions in ecosystems, earth's systems, earth and human activity, and biodiversity.

Tennessee Curriculum: <https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards/science-standards.html> (State of Tenn.)

Knox Co. Curriculum: <http://knoxschools.org/Page/5825> (Knox County)

INSTRUCTION

Unit Topics and Pacing: **Pre Module: Lab Safety (2 weeks)**

I. **Ecosystems and biodiversity (12 weeks)**

II. **Energy – 6 weeks**

III. **Earth's Systems – weeks**

IV. **Earth and Human Activity – 1 week**

Student Materials: 2" Three-ring binder Notebook Paper Pencil Notecards
Sheet protectors

Fees: No additional science or science lab fee is assessed in 6th grade.

Resources: Textbook: Pearson Tennessee Middle School Grade 6 Interactive Science

Outside Resources: Current event articles from periodicals. Discovery Education - United Streaming Videos Endangered Species Series. IFAW Bill Nye the Science Guy series. Disney. A Home for Pearl. ConocoPhillips. Biodiversity: Wild About Life!. ConocoPhillips. Blue Planet. BBC Series, 2002. Planet Earth. PBS Series, 2007. Endangered Species. USPS. Earth. Disney Nature, 2009. Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (1 & 2). 2010/2013. Wall-E, 2008. Happy Feet, 2006. The Lorax. Dr. Seuss: 20th Century Fox, 1972 (or Universal Studios Home Entertainment, 2012). Finding Nemo Pixar Animations, 2001. Finding Dory Pixar Animations 2016. Design and Models. Disney The Science of Imagineering, 2009. Video clips from websites to include: www.schooltube.com; www.nasa.gov; www.teachertube.com; www.ted.com; pbs.org; www.nationalgeographic.com; discovermagazine.com; nps.gov; www.noaa.gov

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

Science Lab: All students must follow the strict rules while in the science lab. Before students are permitted to participate in a lab activity, they must read and sign the lab safety rules. Rules will be sent home the first week of school and are due back within one week. Parents and/or guardians must also read the rules and sign the sheet. Students will be expected to pass a quiz on the rules before being able to participate in any lab activities.

ASSESSMENT

Expectations: Students are expected to regularly attend class, arrive on time, bring required supplies, be prepared for instruction, and participate to the best of his/her ability in class. The Knox County Schools discipline policies and the Cedar Bluff Middle School discipline policy will be followed. Students are responsible for lost and/or damaged textbooks and/or materials. Class participation requires reading assigned material, discussion, vocabulary, projects, lab experiences, homework, review, and evaluation. Assignments are due at the start of class or

at the stated deadline. All assignments, projects and tests will be announced and have a due date that allows for students' quality completion of work required.

- Grading Policy: The Knox County Grading Scale will be used.
A=93-100, B=85-92, C=75-84, D=70-74, F=69 and below
- Aspen Posting: Grades may be accessed via Aspen and will be updated weekly. A blank reflects that an assignment is missing.
- Religion: Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.
- Make-Up Work: Knox County policy, Descriptor Code JB, will be followed.
"The student must request make-up assignments within three **(3) days** after returning from the absence. Teachers shall set a reasonable time for the completion of the work. Failure of a student to initiate a request for make-up work within three (3) days will result in lost opportunity for credit for that assignment."
- Late Work: Points will be deducted for late work, and late work will not be accepted once the topic has been assessed for mastery.
- Honor Code: Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism will have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accepting a grade letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents should be involved in making the decision.
- Assistance: Students can receive assistance from me at any time during the day that I am not teaching or in a meeting (also 8:00 until 8:30, or after school by appointment).
- Contact Information: e-mail: michelle.best@knoxschools.org
sandra.ayton@knoxschools.org
sonya.kyle@knoxschools.org
Telephone: 539-7891

** If the Knox County School Board passes any policy(s) that impacts the expectations set forth in the syllabus, the new policy(s) will be honored and applied. **

Please feel free to contact me if you need clarification on any items listed in this syllabus. I look forward to a great year in science!

Thank you,
Michelle Best
Sandra Ayton
Sonya Kyle