

# **Course: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

## **Instructor: August Askins**

**Course Hyperlink:** <http://kcs.schoolwires.net/Page/6258>

Welcome to 7<sup>th</sup> grade science! We are going to have a wonderful year exploring physical properties of science, the earth, and life functions of organisms. Holston Middle School is very fortunate to be able to provide students with Macbooks! Students and parents alike will be expected to be up to date on all current information posted on the class page through the management system known as Canvas.

### **Course Standards/Curriculum:**

You may access the 7<sup>th</sup> grade state curriculum and performance indicators on the Knox County website at [www.knoxschools.org](http://www.knoxschools.org)

### **Instruction**

#### **General Topics and Instructional Pacing:**

Embedded Inquiry, Technology, and Engineering (2 weeks)  
The Earth (8 weeks)  
Motion (8 weeks)  
Cells (6 weeks)  
Flow of Matter and Energy (3 weeks)  
Heredity (4 weeks)

#### **Materials Needed:**

Students need to come prepared with paper and pencil. Any assignment given the previous class should be completed and brought to class the next day for review. Textbooks and other supplies will be available and supplied by the teacher for use during class time. Students are expected to use a 1” binder with tabs (Notes, Homework, Labs, and Assessments) to organize science materials.

#### **Resources:**

Holt McDougal *Tennessee 7<sup>th</sup> grade Holt Science & Technology*

Various educational videos and reputable periodicals for current news

\* If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the 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.

#### **Safety Procedures:**

A list of safety guidelines and rules will be available to students and parents the first week of school. Both parent and student are expected to read, sign and return.

### **Assessment**

#### **Grading Scale:**

The grading scale used in seventh grade science is based on a total point system.

100-93	A
92-85	B
84-75	C
74-70	D
69-0	F

**Expectations and Explanation of Assignments:**

There are four types of assignments that will determine your science grade. All students will master the content as Proficient or Advanced. This will prepare them for the next grade level, as well as their TCAP test. I have high expectations for all students and failure is not an option.

1. In-class daily work-taken up and graded for accuracy/completion at the end of class.
2. Labs-completed in class and graded for accuracy/completion.
3. Tests-assessment of material learned on a topic.
4. Quizzes-short assessments of a lower point value than tests
5. Projects-usually assigned a greater value due to the in-depth nature and class time spent on projects.

**Make-Up Policy:**

Please refer to the student handbook regarding Knox County’s make up policy.

**Portal Post Policy:**

One way in which I am able to communicate with the student and parent is through Parent Portal. In order to give timely feedback, I update grades at least once per week.

**Behavioral Expectations:**

Be at the right place at the right time with the right materials doing the right thing all the time. We live by an honor code in this classroom so that the environment is conducive to learning for your student and others. I expect all students to be in class on time and ready to learn daily.

**Teacher Communication:**

I will be posting to the Canvas page, please visit the site to see helpful links for help on curriculum. If your student is struggling in class, I can provide the student with additional help and resources. Please feel free to contact me about any concerns you have regarding your child. My school hours are 8am-3:45pm. The best way to contact me is by email at [august.askins@knoxschools.org](mailto:august.askins@knoxschools.org)

**Science Syllabus Agreement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student name), have read the attached syllabus, rules, and procedures. I agree to the expectations stated in the contract. I agree to conduct myself in a responsible manner while in science class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Best way & time to contact parents/guardians:**

Please answer the following questions:

Does your child have internet access at home?

Is your child a day-user?