

Course Syllabus

6 Grade Science

John "Lucius" Irvin- Room 304

COURSE OUTCOME:

Course Description: Science instruction in grades 6-8 addresses the science standards, learning expectations and accomplishments from the TN Department of Education science curriculum. Skills include inquiry, technology and engineering, interdependence, the universe, the atmosphere, energy, and Forces in nature. The state assessed science skills in grades 6-8 are covered using instructional units that are listed above.

Curriculum Standards

The Tennessee curriculum standards for sixth grade science can be found at the following website:<http://www.science.knoxschools.org>

INSTRUCTION:

Topics Covered: Topics covered include the five areas of the State of Tennessee science curriculum: inquiry, technology and engineering, interdependence, the universe, the atmosphere, energy, and Forces in nature.

General Pacing: The pacing will be modified on an ongoing basis as needed to fit the needs of the students. We will start with Inquiry, Technology & Engineering, then move into Interdependence, The Atmosphere, Energy & Forces in Nature before winter break. The second semester will be focused, The universe and TCAP review will be covered.

Materials

Textbook (provided by Knox County Schools):

Supplies (provided by student):

-2 Three subject notebooks (size 8 1/2 " x 11")

-pencils and colored pencils

-sticky Notes

-Scissors

-highlighters

-stapler or tape

-pencil pouch

Resources: Lessons may utilize any of the following formats: interactive whiteboard, PowerPoint or similar presentations, lecture, dry-erase board, lap tops, and educational videos from websites supported by Knox County Schools, such as Brain Pop, Discovery Education, etc. or the school library media collection.

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 him or her exposed, and the nature of your objection

Safety Procedures: Students are to always follow all instructions given by the teacher and/or the school administration. Students will be required to complete a lab safety video and contract which will be signed by both student and parent otherwise student will be unable to participate in labs.

ASSESSMENT:

Expectations: Students are expected to actively participate in class and to learn each standard that is taught. Tests will be given to determine the level of proficiency that each student has achieved for each standard.

Grading Policy/Rubrics

- 1- semester - Grades for quizzes (40%) Unit tests (50%), and daily work/homework/labs (10%).
- 2- semester – Grades for quizzes (40%) Unit tests (50%), and daily work/homeework/labs (10%).

Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time. A student's proficiency level on a particular standard is based on the standards based grading scale. Letter grades will be assigned based on Standard Based grading scale:

A (93% - 100%) Exceeding Expectations

B (85% - 92%) Meeting Expectations

C (75%-84%) Approaching Expectations

D (70%-74%) Attempting Expectations

F (0%-69%) Insufficient Effidence

Progress reports will be issued every four and a half weeks. A final grade report will be issued at the end of each semester.

Explanation of Assignments & Projects: At the teacher's discretion, homework will be assigned only if extra practice is needed on a particular concept or is not completed during class. If student does not reach proficiency on a standards quiz, they will receive remediation for extra practice on that skill. After a student has completed the remediation and studied their notes, they may retest on that skill.

Make-Up Work Policy/Late Work Policy: Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time. Make up work is the responsibility of the student. You are to obtain the missing work from the make-up work board, complete it, and turn it in to your teacher. Assignments can be found on the makeup work crate located at the back of the room. Ask a neighbor first then your teacher if you have a question about the assignment. Students have **one week** to complete make-up work after an absence.

Portal Post Policy: Grades will be posted online at least once per week to provide timely communication to the student and parent/guardian regarding the student's academic performance.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS: Students

- Attendance - It is critical that each student is present and on time every day to class. If the student misses a lab day they will not be permitted to make that lab up, but will be counted excused for the assignment.
- Classroom Policy/Procedures
- When the teacher raises their hand, you should stop, look, and listen. Students will also raise their hand if a question needs to be asked.
- Get all needed materials before instruction. If you forget, borrow from a neighbor or the teacher.
- Assignments should be copied in the agenda at the beginning of the class period.
- If there is a visitor in class, continue to work on assignment or read your AR book.
- Always clean your work area, desk, and floor after working.
- Students will remain seated at their desks during class unless given permission to do otherwise.

Teacher

- Conferences can be arranged with by calling the school office at (865) 689-1430.
- You may also contact me by email: john.irvin@knoxschools.org
- Information about upcoming assignments and projects can be found on my Canvas page as well as resources and materials used in class.

ATTACHMENTS:

Plagiarism Statement

PLAGIARISM According to Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition:

“Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Copying verbatim all or part of another's written work;
2. Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
3. Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
4. Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator."

CONSEQUENCES OF PLAGIARISM

- 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.

Board Policy I-431

Issued: 7/95 Revised 6/08

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

- 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.