

Science Rocks!

Supplies:

Pencil with eraser
3-ring binder w/paper
Student planner
Science Spiral Notebook

Course Description

- **The 8th grade science CORE focuses on “Energy Changes in Systems”**
- Studies include Environmental Science, Chemistry, Physics and Geology
- The course will provide an integrated approach to each discipline
- Three 10-12 week units will be taught- EARTH, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT
- All instruction is based on the State Science Curriculum available on line at <http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/sci/secondary/documents/8THCORE03.pdf>

Course Goals and Objectives

- Each student will **consistently produce quality work.**
- Each student will learn **scientific methods and how to apply** them to life
- Students will gain an **appreciation for science** and its place in their lives
- Gain **mastery** of major content **concepts** from 8th grade science core
- Students will use **reading and writing** as a way to access information in the science domain.
- Each student will develop **research skills** while building deep **conceptual understanding**

Course Materials

- Physical Science: Concepts in Action; Prentice Hall; 2004; ISBN: 978-0130366-146
- Ecology; Glencoe Science; 2005; ISBN: 978-0078617-461
- Multiple science sources, including, but not limited to UGS materials, Public Information Series; GEOTIMES; Science World; trade books; recommended books for 8th grade science core on district web page <http://www.slc.k12.ut.us/staff/larmad/science/>

Format and Procedures

- Daily objectives and language connection that provides access to science literacy
- Essential questions to guide learning and research
- Various grouping, based on activity and student need, including: lab groups, partners, presentation groups, class discussion and individual work
- Student self-tracking of Guide Sheets and Science Agenda (see “Turning in Assignments”)
- Investigative labs
- Individualized instruction as stated in IEP, 504, teacher observation, etc.
- Students will keep a Science Portfolio in class of assessments and projects

Requirements and Expectations

Expectations

- Bring **student planner, science spiral notebook and 3-ring notebook or a sturdy folder** every day.
- Come to class with a pencil, **ready to learn** and contribute
- Take **responsibility** for yourself and your actions and do your work!
- **Hall passes are for emergencies only.** Each student will have 2 passes per quarter. Hall passes are granted under teacher discretion.
- **Tardy students** (must be in seat room before last bell) will follow school Tardy policy.
- **Cheating** will not be tolerated. Any inappropriate sharing, plagiarism, copying in any form (internet, other students, cliff notes, etc) will not be tolerated. Any student caught cheating will receive a **0 for the assignment.** Tests are included. No exceptions.

Turning in assignment

- **Daily Science Agenda** and **Essential Question** will be turned on each **Friday**.
- Students keep track of assignments on Guide Sheet and turn in approximately **every 2 weeks**.
- **Home work** is assigned every **Tuesday and Thursday** evening, due on the following Wednesday and Friday. Home work is checked in class and cannot, therefore, be “made-up” for full credit.

Absences and Extra Credit

- If you are **absent**, **check the “What Did I Miss?” book and the assignment box**
- **Turn your work in on time**. Work is accepted *one day late*, but it will lose 25% of value.
- **A Grade Update Request** is available in class if information on **esis** is incorrect. **Proof of assignment MUST be shown** at time that request is submitted.
- **NO EXTRA CREDIT WORK IS GIVEN TO COMPENSATE FOR LAZINESS or absence.**
- *Extra credit opportunities will be available periodically, as designed by the teacher.*

Consequences

- Warning and signature
- Timeout
- Last out
- Parental Contact (usually by phone)
- Buddy room/ administrative consequence

Grading Procedures

- **Grades** are based on an accumulation of points and converted into standard percentages.
- Grades are **up dated** every other Friday on **esis**.
- The **grade scale** is as follows:
A 95-100% B+87-89% C+77-79% D+ 67-69% F 0-54%
A- 90-94% B 83-86% C 73-76% D 63-66%
 B- 80-82% C- 70-72% D- 62-55%
- Parents will be notified by mail of grades at mid-term and end of term.
- Class time cannot be spent to “check grades”. Students may check grades at home and in the library before and after school.

Tentative Class Schedule

- “EARTH” unit: August – November
- “ENERGY” unit: December – February
- “ENVIRONMENT” unit: March- May
- Guide Sheets and Essential Questions available upon request

Teacher Contact Information

- C Hall/Room 29, phone 481-4828 X 129
- School website: <http://hillside.slc.k12.ut.us>
- E-mail: candace.penrod@slc.k12.ut.us



We have read the disclosure document and agree to the terms. We know that Mrs. Penrod is available to discuss any concerns throughout the year by setting up an appointment or e-mailing.

Student _____ Period _____ Date _____

Parent _____ Date _____