

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

7th Grade Science ~ Rebecca Costello
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Room # 114

I. Course Overview:

Seventh grade science focuses on chemistry and biology. This year we will be continuing to implement our new curriculum according to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). See <http://www.nextgenscience.org/> for more information about topics covered in middle school. The main topics we will cover are chemistry, cells, heredity and evolution. We will explore these ideas using many resources such as readings, videos, hands-on projects and labs.

II. Overall Course Objectives:

Students will learn how to use information to support their ideas and make conclusions about topics that we cover. I want students to always ask themselves, “Does this make sense?” while using information to make decisions.

III. Materials Required:

Students need a composition book, something to write with (pen or pencil) and three paper bags to cover textbooks. A 3-ring binder is not required, but will help keep papers organized.

IV. Class/Behavior Expectations:

There are two basic rules for this science class. They are “respect” and “safety”. Students are expected to be respectful of the people and materials around them, and are to conduct themselves in a safe manner at all times. Anything that is not safe or respectful will lead to consequences.

V. Attendance Policy:

Please refer to the handbook for specific details.

VI. Grading Policy:

Grades are available to students and parents using PowerSchool. It can be used to check for upcoming assignments, due dates, grades and feedback. I will also utilize “Remind” for a texting option for assignment reminders. Grading is done on a cumulative points system. Each assignment has points that can be earned (homework and class work is 5-10 points, projects and tests are often 20 or more points). To earn full credit on assignments, students must follow all directions and turn work in on time. Extra credit is rarely offered. Late assignments may be accepted within a week of the due date based on the particular assignment and its due date, but will have points deducted. Some assignments, such as quizzes, may be re-done and points averaged to improve grades. Please speak with me about individual assignments.

VII. Academic Integrity Statement:

Please refer to the handbook for specific details.

VIII. Teacher Availability for Extra Help:

Students are always welcome to work with me for extra help. Contact me and we’ll set up an appropriate time either during available school time, or after school as needed.

IX. Wheeler High/Middle School Academic Expectations met by this course:

Literacy

Analysis*

Communication

Collaboration