



Sixth Grade Accelerated Science Syllabus Mrs. Pickering

Welcome to 6th grade Accelerated Science! We are going to have a wonderful year exploring, investigating and digging deeper into topics. The following is an overview of expectations and guidelines.

What will I learn this year?

This year we will be learning how rocks are made, the affect of plate tectonics and the Earth, how energy is transferred, and ecosystems. If you would like to review a more detailed curriculum, please visit the State of Michigan's Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) at <http://www.michigan.gov/mde/>

How is this class different from the traditional 6th grade science course?

The accelerated class will still follow the 6th grade science curriculum but in greater depth, at a faster pace, and with more independence. Students will be completing more projects, doing more research, along with other hands-on activities.

Materials

Students will have several textbooks during the year. At the beginning of each unit, students will check out a new textbook. **Each time, students and parents will complete a book assessment form. These need to be signed and returned.**

Students will be asked to maintain a **science binder. This binder needs to be 1-1/2 to 2 inches and include 10 dividers.** It is to be used **only for science.** You are responsible for keeping it organized. I will be checking it periodically to see that it is being used effectively. The binder will be divided into units of study so that all information and material regarding a concept is together and easier to review for a test. Students need to keep all material so they may review for the end of the year test.

Lab Safety

Since we will be doing lab investigations throughout the year, safety is a top priority. All rules must be followed at all times! It is expected that students behave and conduct themselves like young adults. We will be going over these safety rules over the next week and a contract will be coming home for you and your student to review, sign, and return. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter!

How will I be graded this year?

Students will be graded on a point system. Tests, quizzes, projects and other assessments (i.e. worksheets) will be worth a specific amount of points which will be communicated to students on the assignment or in the form of a rubric.

Homework / Assignment Policy

Homework assignments will come home on a regular basis. All assignments are due the next day at the beginning of class, unless otherwise stated. Late work, (homework and in class assignments) that are missing due to an absence must be turned in according to the timeframe outlined in the JMS Handbook. Assignments turned in late for other reasons will have points deducted from them.

Extra Credit

During the course of the school year, extra credit assignments may be given. Only students who have completed all assignments for the card marking will be able to complete and receive credit for these activities.

Grading Scale

	A 100-93%	A- 92-90%
B+ 89-88%	B 87-83%	B- 82-80%
C+ 79-78%	C 77-73%	C- 72-70%
D+ 69-68%	D 67-63%	D- 62-60%
59 and lower	F	

What if my child is absent?

Students and parents can access assignment information on our class Weebly site www.mrspickering.weebly.com or by visiting our assignment bin located in the classroom. Ultimately, it is the student's responsibility to gather all missing assignments from our crate.

What if my child needs additional help?

Any student needing extra help outside of class can do so by setting up a time to meet with me at lunch, or come in early for "morning help" which is held in the media center from 7:15 to 7:53. Students may also stay after school for additional help or work time on a computer.

How will information be communicated to me about my student?

I have several ways I will communicate information to you and your student during the school year. I will maintain a Weebly website. On this site, you will be able to see what work has been done, what I have planned for the week, links to assignments and other materials used in class. These assignments and notes can be downloaded and printed at home. You will also have access to your student's academic progress by logging onto Power School. A tutorial can be found on our district website at www.lakeview.misd.net. Specific concerns will either be emailed to you or a phone call will be made home.

How do I contact my student's teacher?

I'll be happy to address concerns or questions throughout the year as they arise. Feel free to contact me by phone 586-445-4130, email hpickering@scslakeview-k12.com, or write me a note.

I am excited about a new school year! Welcome to Jefferson Middle School! I hope that it is a wonderful experience for you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Heather Pickering

cut and return the bottom portion

I have read this with my child and understand the classroom requirements for Mrs. Pickering's Science class.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Student Signature