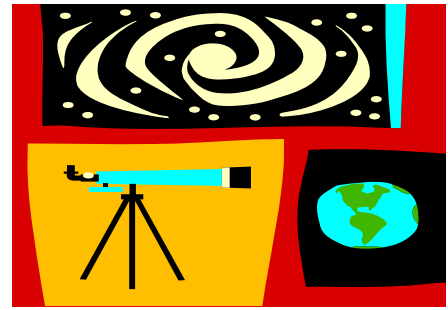


6th Grade Science
Mr. Eric Bailey
Room 26
EricBailey@ssas.org
2011 - 2012
Syllabus



Welcome to 6th Grade Science! Science is essentially the study of the world around us, and as scientists, we try to understand our world by asking questions. This year we will use scientific inquiry to investigate the Earth's Structure, Rocks and Minerals, Geologic Changes, Weather, and the Universe.

Please take the time to read the following information carefully. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask. I look forward to sharing this exciting year with all of you!

Required Materials: Please bring these materials to class every day.

1. Agenda book
2. Pencils or pens (blue or black only)
3. Two composition notebooks (one for science fair and one for class)
4. One Duotang folder (one per quarter) and notebook paper (college ruled preferred)

*** All students are expected to have ALL of the supplies on their 6th grade mandatory supply list at all times.*

Grading:

- Tests/Projects: 35%
- Quizzes: 30%
- Classwork/Homework/Labs: 30%
- Bell work: 5%

Bell work (5%):

Students are to use the time between classes to visit the restroom, go to their locker (if it is the appropriate time), and go straight to their next class. Upon entering the classroom, students should look on the board for their daily bell work assignment. Students are to gather their materials and immediately begin working on their assignment. Students are expected to have the assignment finished by the time the teacher is finished taking roll. ***Bell work is NOT optional!***

Classwork/ Homework/Labs (30%):

Students will be asked to work on individual and group assignments throughout the year. Homework, when given, will involve some studying and perhaps some written work. There will be few homework assignments given during the year, however, students are responsible for studying their key terms and notes taken in class. ***During the first semester, the homework for all students will be to work on science fair projects.*** Students will be asked to turn in homework assignments regarding science fair during the first semester. Remember, homework cannot be made up unless a student was absent.

Students will be participating in many hands-on lab activities that enrich the information covered in class. Whenever possible, lab information will be given prior to the lab activity. Students will be responsible for reading over the lab BEFORE coming to class. On the day of the lab, questions regarding the procedures will be addressed before the lab. Although students will be working in groups, each individual student will still be responsible for their individual lab worksheets or reports.

**** Missed labs cannot be made up.** If a student misses a lab, he or she should speak to their group partners about what was done and learned from the activity. The student should also speak with the teacher about an alternative assignment when the student returns.

Quizzes (30%):

Quizzes will take place from time to time and will consist of five to ten questions based on the week's lesson. Pop-quizzes can occur at any time.

Tests/Projects (35%):

Tests will be given upon the completion of the current chapter or unit of study. We will have a chapter review a day or two before the test; however, students are still responsible for studying the material on their own. Study guides will be given to students before a test and will also be posted on Edline. Test dates will be announced in class about a week before the test.

Projects are an important aspect of applying the Scientific Method. Each quarter there will be a project (can include in-class projects) that reinforces the concepts of scientific methodology, course content, in addition to interdisciplinary themes.

Absences:

When a student is absent from class, it is the *student's responsibility* to get the make-up work and/or assignments from the make-up work folder in class. *It is recommended to exchange contact information with at least two people from your group/team in class who you can call to obtain information when you are out.* You are responsible for checking the "Make-Up Work Folder" for any assignments missed on the days you were out. It is your responsibility to look up the work missed and make it up on time.

Students who are absent will need to obtain class notes taken while they were out from another student.

****Important reminder:**

If a student is absent on the day of a quiz and/or test that student is required to make up that quiz and/or test *the day they return.* Students will know about a week before an exam is given, so quiz and test dates will be known ahead of time.

Science Fair: Due Date Timeline – The additional information regarding the Science Fair can be found in the Science Fair Handbook.

Assignment	Assignment Description	Suggested Time to Complete this Step	Due Date
Topic Checklist	Students research topics and narrow it down. They submit the topic checklist with parent and student signatures.	14 days	9/2/11
Problem Statement/Question	The specific question the student will be investigating in the project.	7 days	9/9/11
Research Index Cards & 3 Sources	The Research Index Cards are used to guide you in doing background research. You should have all bibliographic information for each of the 3 (or more) sources of information (author, date, publisher, website, etc.). Your teacher will go over with you what they require for this assignment.	7 days	9/16/11
Variables and Hypothesis	Variables are the factors that will be changed during the experiment (includes IV, DV, and CVs). The hypothesis is a one-sentence statement that predicts the outcome of the experiment.	3 days	9/23/11
Background Research Paper & Bibliography	The purpose of the Background Research Paper is to provide information to help understand why the experiment turns out the way it does. The bibliography is the list of information sources in MLA format.	12 days	9/28/11
Materials and Procedures	A detailed list of the materials that will be used to conduct the experiment and the detailed steps that will be followed during experiment.	7 days	10/4/11 & receive forms
Forms & Research Plan	Completed ISEF Forms and Research Plan (includes Problem Statement, Hypothesis, Materials & Procedures, Bibliography).	7 days	10/11/11
Conducting the Experiment	This is the period of time that students are actually doing their experiment and collecting data. Minimum of 3 trials. If students are working with plants, they should have 3 plants for each variable tested.	14 days	10/12/11 – 10/28/11
Data Analysis and Graphs	The analysis of the experimental data. A summary of the findings of the experiment in graph form.	7 days	11/4/11
Conclusions	An explanation of the results of the experiment.	7 days	11/11/11
Abstract	A 250 word description of the entire experiment.	2 days	11/14/11
Final Project (Report, Display Board, & Log Book)	The final report includes all written elements of project submitted as a final report. Display board, Final Report in Folder, and Log Book are all turned in.	3 days	11/16/11
School Science Fair	The date of the SSA+S Science Fair.		11/29/11
County Science Fair	The date of the Sarasota County Science Fair.		TBA

Contacting the teacher:

The best method of contact is via e-mail at EricBailey@ssas.org

If a student or parent sends an e-mail, a response will usually be returned within 24 hours, unless the teacher is absent from school. Phone calls and email will not be answered on the weekends or during school breaks.

Parents may also contact by calling the school 330-1855 ext 126 and leaving a message. Please keep in mind that it might take me some time to get back to you if phone tag is played.

Conferences are scheduled shortly after each midterm. Any parent/guardian who is concerned about their student's progress should call the School Receptionist to schedule a conference for these days.

Mr. Bailey's PROOF POSITIVE Classroom Rules

- P: Be Positive.
- R: Be Respectful.
- O: Be on time and ready.
- O: Offer Help to others.
- F: Follow Directions.

Classroom Consequences:

1. **First Offense:** Visual (The Look) or Verbal Warning
2. **Second Offense:** Write classroom rules and parent notification (via phone)
3. **Third Offense:** Behavior essay with signature from parent/guardian.
4. **Fourth Offense:** In-school morning detention.
5. **Fifth offense:** County referral (One or more days out of school suspension)

Student or parent refusal for student to write classroom rules or behavior essay, and also a refusal to do a morning detention will be considered to be a fifth offense.

If an offense, at the discretion of the teacher, is severe enough, the first two steps can be omitted resulting in the third step, as long as a phone call from the teacher accompanies this action of discipline. Zero-tolerance behaviors will immediately be a fifth step offense.

Classroom Rewards:

- Compliments (daily)
- Stickers & Stamps (randomly)
- More hands-on activities (throughout the school year)
- Science games (randomly)
- Positive notes home (randomly)
- Happy teacher = happy students!

Syllabus is subject to change

CONTACT INFORMATION:

After you and your parent/guardian have read the syllabus, please fill in your contact information and sign at the bottom.

Parent/guardian name:

(Please Print Name Clearly)

Relationship to student: _____

Student Name: _____

(Please Print Name Clearly)

Contact numbers:

_____ at _____ Best time to call: _____
(Name) (Phone Number)

_____ at _____ Best time to call: _____
(Name) (Phone Number)

We (student and parent/guardian) have read and understand the 6th grade science syllabus.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student must return this signed syllabus no later than Wednesday, August 24th.