

Course Syllabus – 7th Grade Science 2008-2009

Andrew Kruger

7th Grade Science

Keefer Crossing Middle School

Conference: 9:15-10:00 AM (3rd Period)

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Materials: The following list is the items each student will need to bring to my classroom.

- 1) One 3 Subject Spiral Notebook (FOR SCIENCE ONLY)
- 2) #2 Pencils (mechanical pencils are fine as well)
- 3) Blue or Black ink pens (one package)
- 4) One package of white printer paper

Expected Behavior:

1. Show respect and courtesy to others.
2. Have pencils sharpened, be seated and working on the warm-ups when the bell rings.
3. Come to class prepared.
4. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak.
5. Stay in your seat.
6. During class, talk about the day's assignment only.
7. Students will be dismissed from class when their work area is cleaned and they are seated quietly.
8. The teacher dismisses class, not the bell!

Warm-ups – The purpose of a warm-ups is the review the different basic skills that students have learned. This is to be taken seriously and there should be **NO TALKING** while working on these assignments. Warm-ups will be taken up at the end of each week for a daily grade.

Discipline – Students are required to follow all of the classroom rules as well as the school's rules. Students who do not follow these rules will receive consequences based upon their actions.

1st Offense – Warning

2nd Offense – Student/Teacher Conference

3rd Offense – Parent Phone Contact/Conference/Note home

4th Offense – D-hall

5th Offense – Office Referral

** Serious Discipline problems, such as fighting, cursing, or behavior that seriously disrupts a class will be sent directly to the office.

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Spiral – Students are required to have their spiral with them in class every day. Their spiral will be used to hold warm-ups for the week and notes for the unit. The third section of the spiral can be used at the student's discretion for assignment paper or more space for notes.

Guidelines

- Date each new day.
- Title all pages the way I do.
- Write your notes clearly.
- Keep all of your notes in your spiral.

Notes – Students will be required to take notes for each unit. The notes should be kept in the spiral.

Planner – Students will bring their planner with them to class every day. Each day the student will write the agenda and homework for the day as part of the warm-up. Students will receive a stamp for each day they complete the agenda section in their planner. At random times during the week, we will have a planner check. Students who have their planner (completed and signed) will have their lowest homework grade brought up to a 100.

Make-up Work

If a student is absent, he/she has one (1) day for each day absent to turn in work for full credit. The students will be responsible for looking at the Make-up Folders in the room to pick up any assignments they have missed.

The NCISD grading policy for 7th grade is as follows:

Daily Work:	40%	Quizzes, most labs, and worksheets.
Tests:	50%	Chapter or unit tests, some labs, and projects.
Homework:	10%	Students will have homework at least once a week. Homework will only be assigned after students have been instructed in class and can complete it successfully and independently. NCSD policy requires late homework receive a maximum grade of 50 for the first semester. During the second semester, late work will NOT be accepted.

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Outline for the Year

- I. Nature of Science (August and September)**
 - Lab Safety -Scientific Method -Measurement -Graphing
- II. Structures and Properties of Matter (September)**
 - Properties of Matter -Atomic Structure
- III. Motion, Forces, Simple Machines, and Energy (September and October)**
 - Simple Machines -Newton's Laws -Kinetic and Potential Energy
- IV. The Solar System (October and November)**
 - Planets -Earth's Moon -Eclipses and Solstices
- V. Weathering and Erosion (November and December)**
 - Resources -Biomes -Pollution
- VI. Ecology – Biosystems - Resources (December and January)**
 - Fish -Amphibians -Reptiles -Birds -Mammals
- VII. Cells and Heredity (January)**
- VIII. Bacteria, Protists, and Fungi (January and February)**
- IX. Invertebrates and Vertebrates (February, March, April)**
 - Sponges -Cnidarians -Worms -Mollusks -Arthropods -Echinoderms
 - Fish -Amphibians -Reptiles -Birds -Mammals
- X. Human Body Systems (April and May)**

Students will receive a Progress Report or Report Card every three weeks indicating their progress in the class. Please ask your child for these reports. They will be your best indication of successful or unsuccessful classroom performance. A free homework pass will be given to students who return these reports with a parent/guardian signature.

Each student will need to come to class each day with paper and writing materials. Failure to come to class prepared to work usually results in a much lower grade and often leads to discipline problems.