



Welcome to 6th Grade Earth Science With Mr. Sainsbury in H-1

WELCOME to the 2019-20 school year at Templeton Middle School and your new Awesome Science Lab. I am so excited to meet all of you and share all the cool things I know about the Earth and Beyond (Space Sciences). In this class you will become scientists, perform experiments, invent and create models, race solar-powered cars, simulate earthquakes, identify rocks and minerals and much more fun stuff. Get ready for an exciting year where you will be challenged to perform discovery-based learning and think like a scientist while you take notes, keep an organized binder and perform lab work. All you need to do is come to class on time and prepared, Listen, Follow Directions, Participate, and follow a few classroom guidelines. Read through this letter and the classroom rules with your parent(s) and **return this handout, signed by this Friday.**

This class will introduce most topics using the **Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**, which will prepare you for future science instruction in Middle and High School. The material covered this year will be:

- Introduction to Science & Lab Safety
- Heat and Energy
- Rock and Minerals
- Plate Tectonics & Volcanoes
- Astronomy
- Weather
- Natural Resources
- Environmental Studies

MATERIALS: You are required to bring a **3-hole punch binder/notebook**; with **5 dividers**, plenty of **paper**, **pencils**, **highlighters** and **pens** (blue/black and red) to class **every day**. A standard set of **colored pencils** is also required. Each of you will receive your own textbook (McDougal Littell - Focus on Earth Sciences) to take home and return at the end of the year. Please take care of your textbook and keep in a safe place.

SCIENCE NOTEBOOK: All of your science work will be kept organized in your Binder. A Table of Contents page will be filled out throughout each major unit to keep your Notes, Assignments, Labs and Homework in the correct order. The binder will be checked at the end of each unit and counts towards your grade. Your work completion, content, neatness, and organization will help you earn an excellent notebook score and make studying so much easier. **Keep all assignments and DO NOT throw anything away.** Binders will be cleaned out at the end of the first semester.

“WARM-UPS”: When you enter class each day, the first thing you will do is follow the directions on the “Warm-up” board. This will tell you what materials you need to get out or go pick up in the room and usually involves answering a “warm-up” or brain starting exercise written on the board. This task is included as part of your notebook grade. It is important to get right to work on the “*Warm-up*” each day and not waste any time.

HOMEWORK AND ASSIGNMENTS:



Homework will be assigned weekly and includes Textbook Reading and a Vocabulary Assignment due Friday. **Homework assignments and their due dates are posted on the whiteboard, Google Classroom, your Homework Calendar and on my Google Calendar.** Homework that is poorly completed or not turned in on time will receive partial or no credit. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check your homework calendars, Google Classroom or the Student Center, and complete & turn-in the assignment you missed in class. Incomplete/missing assignments can be re-done and turned in for partial credit if received **before** the Unit Exam.

TESTS AND QUIZZES: Unit Exams will be given at the end of each major unit. A Study Guide and Review Sheets will be handed out prior to the Exam to help you study. Friday Quizzes are given almost every Friday and are from the Textbook Reading and assignments performed in class that week. Quizzes may be re-taken at Ketchup Club (Wednesdays at lunch). Prepare yourself for each and every quiz or exam. Poor test or exam grades are a result of poor preparation or participation on your part.

SAINSBURY'S CLASSROOM RULE:

This is my only rule. In my class I expect you to **RESPECT** Mr. Sainsbury, each other, and the environment around you. There will be no put-downs, profanity or rude manners. When in doubt, remember the two CC's, **COMMON COURTESY**. **Teamwork** is extremely important in the science classroom as well. Each one of you is unique and different; bringing something valuable to contribute to our team activities and labs. To be effective we must all work together and **RESPECT** people's differences. Treat others as you would like to be treated!

BASIC CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Show Respect and Kindness at all times.
2. No chewing gum, eating or drinking (except water) allowed in the classroom - Automatic Detention.
3. Be on time and have materials ready when class begins.
4. Raise your hand to speak or leave your seat when Mr. Sainsbury is instructing in front of the class.
5. Have a positive attitude towards the classroom, your fellow classmates and learning.
6. Give your best effort and Be Responsible for your own work.
7. Turn assignments in on time.
8. Clean up after yourself before you leave class.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

I use a Positive Behavior Reinforcement system in the classroom. Consequently to be fair to all learners, the procedure for misbehaving or not following Classroom Rules are as follows and reset every week. A Verbal or Visual Warning is given for the first offense. Next, you will receive a check in the gradebook and a Detention at Break in H-1 to discuss your behavior. A second check in one week will result in a Wednesday Lunch Detention in H-1 & a phone call or email to parents. A third check will result in an after school detention followed by more serious consequences.

I look forward to all of us having a successful and fun year in science. If there are any questions or you want to share something about yourself or your student, please feel free to contact me at school through email at jsainsbury@templetonusd.org. Students drop by H-1 anytime and see if I'm free.

Sincerely,
Mr. Sainsbury

AGREEMENT: I have read through these classroom expectations and guidelines and will follow them while in Mr. Sainsbury's class.

Student signature

Date

I have reviewed these guidelines with my son/daughter.

Parent(s) signature

Date

