



I am excited to start this new school year with you! The focus of study will be: force & motion, Energy, Matter & Chemistry and Light & Sound. Because this is your last year of middle school, the focus of my classroom policies is "high school readiness". My hope for you is that you leave middle school prepared to take personal responsibility, meet deadlines, and learn self-motivation; ensuring your success in high school and beyond!

### **Behavior Expectations and Rules**

#### RESPECT

Maintain a respectful learning environment: follow directions the first time; treat teachers, classmates and room environment with courtesy;

#### RESPONSIBILITY

Keep your science notebook neat, complete and up to date. Complete all assignments and make up all work missed during an absence. Bring your materials to class every day.

#### READINESS

Be seated before the tardy bell. Take care of pencil sharpening, bathroom use and other chores before the bell.

### **Required Science Class Materials**

You MUST have the following supplies with you in class EVERY day:

1. A sturdy composition book with at least 100 pages.
2. Highlighters for important notes
3. Several pencils
4. Glue Sticks

### **Homework Policy**

My goal for homework is to make it meaningful yet painless. Homework is assigned on Friday and you have until the following Thursday night to complete it. Each week you will receive a code in class (or via the website if you are absent) for the weekly homework. This code will take you to your weekly homework assignment of 2-3 **SHORT** video clips supporting the classroom content. You are required to watch the videos and answer the questions. On Friday, I will check the video log to ensure you have completed your weekly task. For each week you complete your homework, you will earn a stamp on the "Stamp Sheet". A fully stamped sheet (6 stamps) equals up to 25 points.

**\*\*NOTE\*\***

**iPads will be available during the week for anyone who does not have internet access at home.**

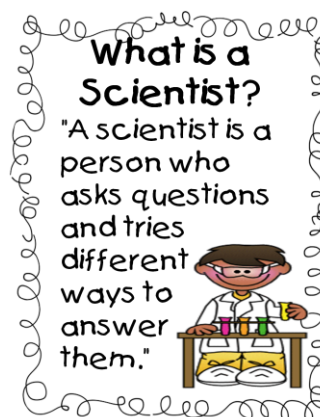
**NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

### **Tests and quizzes**

There will be weekly quizzes covering current class work and homework, as well as previously learned content. Each major unit of study will end with a unit exam. A review session or study guide will be provided for you. If you miss a quiz, you will be required to make-up the quiz on the following WEDNESDAY.

### **Labs**

You are expected to **finish** labs and classwork in the time provided. If you do not complete the lab questions and conclusions during class, you are expected to complete them at home. All lab assignment questions can be accessed via my website ([msmith-clmscience.weebly.com](http://msmith-clmscience.weebly.com)). Failure to complete labs may result in alternate assignments, such as notes from the textbook and will negatively affect your class grade.



## **Lab Safety**

Science requires careful measurement and attention to the safety rules. Understand that participating in laboratory experiments is a privilege, which can be revoked at any time. If you do not follow the safety rules, you may lose ALL lab privileges for the REST OF THE YEAR. You must know exactly what to do in the event of an emergency or spill. If you do not know, it is your responsibility to ask BEFORE something happens.

## **Projects**

At-home projects will be assigned to provide you the opportunity to show what you have learned through engineering and design. These projects are opportunities for you to demonstrate mastery of a concept. Ample time, very clear instructions, and a grading rubric will be given to ensure that you can do your best. These projects are not optional, and must be turned in on time.

## **Absences**

Regular attendance is an important part of learning. It is **your** responsibility to ask a friend or access my website to see what assignments you missed. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL WORK YOU MISSED.** If you are absent when an assignment is due, it must be turned in the first day you are back. It is your responsibility to turn it in.

\*\*Given that lab activities are specific to the classroom environment and cannot be completed at home, you have been given a document titled "HOW TO MAKE-UP AN ASSIGNMENT" to use as a reference if you are ever absent for a lab or classwork assignment. Please refer to that document in the APPENDIX of your notebook, or on my website in order to make-up lab assignments.

## **Extra credit policy**

I periodically offer extra credit that will be available to all students. It is your choice whether or not to take advantage of these opportunities when they are offered. However, keep in mind that **NO INDIVIDUAL EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE OFFERED.** DO NOT wait until your grade becomes a problem and suddenly decide you want to do something about it. By then, it may be too late.

## **Grading Scale**

You should monitor your grades regularly through Jupiter Grades. The grading scale is:

90%-100% = A

80%-89% = B

67%-79% = C

57%-66% = D

56% and below is an F



**I have read and understood this syllabus. I agree to abide by its guidelines**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print your name)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your signature here)



**GLUE THIS SIDE DOWN  
INTO SCIENCE  
NOTEBOOK**