

## General Goals and Objectives

The goal of 8<sup>th</sup> grade science is to review the important information you have learned in your middle school career while expanding your knowledge in certain areas so that you can be a scientifically literate member of society, pass the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science STAAR, and be prepared for the Science classes in high school.



## Academic Honesty

It is expected that ALL work completed in this class is a product of your own mind and effort. If you give another student answers to a question or take answers from a parent or another student, it is cheating. Cheating will result in negative consequences for ALL students involved.

A zero obtained because of cheating may NOT be made up. Any other failing class assignments may be corrected in tutorials or on Google Classroom. (This does NOT include tests.)

## Make Up Work

I will place all handouts in your Science Notebook or on Google Classroom when you are absent. When you return you should glue the pages in and complete the assignments using your partner's data from any laboratory or see me during tutorials.

## Extra Help

If you need extra help or have questions about assignments, email or speak to me as soon as possible, so we can get you the assistance you need.

## Conclusion

I want you to be successful in science. I encourage you to participate in class and ask questions when you do not understand. I am looking forward to a very exciting and productive year!



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## Welcome to Eighth Grade Science

At  
Bland Middle School

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I hope you have had a safe and relaxing summer. I'm thrilled that we're finally back whether you're at school or learning from home! The following information will help you to succeed in science this year.

It will be a fun and exciting journey if you follow the rules and keep your mind on the material at hand.

Eighth grade science is an integrated science course focusing on Earth Science. Major topics of study this year include:

- 1<sup>st</sup> nine weeks – Safety, Atomic Structures, and Chemistry
- 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks – Force and Motion, Climate and begin Earth's Cycles
- 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks – Forces that change the Earth and Our Universe
- 4<sup>th</sup> nine weeks – Ecosystems, Interdependence of Living Systems, and Projects

## Philosophy

Science is more than just a discipline; it is a way of knowing, thinking and using that knowledge to explain the world around us. Some of you may think that you don't like science, or that it is too hard for you. Others already know that science is one of their favorite classes. I believe that everyone learns by doing. The lessons and activities in my classroom are created to provide you with multiple opportunities for learning in a hands-on, minds-on design.

We do not use a textbook during science class but you may keep up with class assignments through Google Classroom and Remind 101. The sign-up sheets for Remind.com have been sent home and links are available on Google Classroom.



## Materials

During the first week of school you are expected to bring the following items:

- 2 Composition books**
- 4 small glue sticks or tape (optional)**
- 1 pen or pencil to use during class**

## Conference Time

My daily conference time is 7:50-8:35 am. Please make an appointment through the school office or through my email address. Parents may email any time.

## Classroom Expectations

You will not do anything that will get in the way of your learning and/or the learning of others. You are expected to participate in labs, activities and class projects as well as follow **all** safety rules during laboratories.

## Our Classroom Rules

1. Be in your seat with all materials ready to work when the tardy bell rings.
2. Follow directions and read lab instructions **CAREFULLY** prior to each activity. (No food or gum in the lab.) Lab rules **ALWAYS** apply!!
3. Do nothing to disturb the learning process.
4. Respect others and yourself and treat each other well. (Keep your hands and feet to yourself.)
5. Clean your desk and materials after use.

## Grading System

50% Daily work – classwork  
50% Major grades – tests/projects  
1 day late = 70, 2 days late = 50,  
3 days late = 0. Those add up quickly.  
Please turn things in on time! These still apply at home.

## Projects

Projects are assigned throughout the year, giving you the opportunity to demonstrate what you have learned in a creative way. Typically, you can expect to complete one major project per semester. Most projects are to be completed at home, but occasionally class time may be given.

## Class Routine

- Enter the classroom on time, prepared and ready to learn.
- Once in the room, you are expected to make sure you have a pencil or pen. If you are using a pencil be sure it is sharpened at this time.
- Prepare your journal for each day's work and get it glued or taped in quickly.
- Class time will consist of independent and group activities, hands-on labs, vocabulary work and review.
- You are expected to be respectful, responsible and cooperative in the classroom.
- You may **NOT** bring in backpacks, purses or binders as they're a lab hazard. Your journals may either stay in the room or in your locker, but you need it in class **EVERY DAY**. I will give you ample time to get ready before I dismiss you, so there will be no need to interrupt the lesson. We will need to clean everything up before we go.



## Homework

We don't have homework; however, you will have daily assignments and occasionally a project that will be due on Fridays. Not completing the assignments will result in failing grades and ICU until it is completed.