

Pine View School

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6th Grade Science

Pine View School

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Introduction

Students will study fundamental concepts in astronomy, geology, oceanography, paleontology, and meteorology.

Supplies Please refer to the Grade 6 Supply List.

Grades Grades are based on the following:

1. *Tests and quizzes (40%)*

Tests are always announced at least a week in advance, and must be taken within one week of absence. Tests typically include about 10 vocabulary questions, 20 to 30 multiple-choice questions, and 2 essays. The essays are chosen from questions which are made available to students at the very beginning of the unit. Quizzes are based on recent homework or video presentations and are often unannounced.

2. *Labs (25%)*

Lab activity papers are generally due no sooner than 2 school days after the class work portion is completed, but will incur a **25% penalty** for each day it's late because lab equipment is often shared among teachers and the activities are coordinated to reinforce a sequential curriculum.

3. *Notebook (15%)*

Students are required to keep a section in 3-ring notebook for science. Notebooks are checked several times during each marking period, and should include for each chapter:

A. class notes

B. all returned homework and class work papers

C. lab reports

3. *Homework (20%)*

Homework will be assigned about 4 times per week, and its importance cannot be over-stressed. Homework will be graded as follows:

A - completed with reasonable effort shown

B - completed satisfactorily

C or D - incomplete or substandard

F - not submitted

Homework is due at the beginning of class. Homework must be done on time in order to be prepared for class activities. One-day late homework, therefore, will be worth 50%. Homework over one day late earns no credit. Due dates for work missed due to excused absences follows the school policy (see handbook).

All written homework assignments may be handwritten or typed, and must have a page heading in the upper left-hand corner of the page that includes:

1. Student's first and last name

2. Assignment (including page number and question numbers assigned)

3. Date

4. Class period number

All homework questions should be answered in complete sentences whenever possible. Homework submitted on torn, crumpled, or ragged paper will receive a lower grade. No spiral notebook paper, please!

A student may be exempted from written homework if he/she can demonstrate that it is unnecessary, by maintaining an A+ (97%) or better test score average. An exemption ("No Homework Club") will go into effect after two A+ tests, and either remains in effect or not depending on the scores of each subsequent test.

4. *Extra Credit*

Satisfactory participation in the **Pine View School Science Fair** will result in substantial extra credit (up to 4 points added to quarterly grade) for the first three quarters of the school year.

Extra Help

Extra help is available to any student. Make arrangements at least a day in advance, and realize that students seeking extra help are always welcome! If you would like a tutor for after school hours, the guidance office keeps a list.

Conduct

When class is scheduled to begin, students should be in their seats with their homework, text, pen, and notebook out, ready to begin. Disruptive behavior deprives the entire class of their education and is, of course, unacceptable. The following progressive discipline plan will be followed:

1. Student is issued a specific, individual, verbal warning.
2. Student is assigned lunch detention, which includes the completion of an Action Plan Worksheet.
3. Office referral, parents notified. In the unlikely event of truly gross misconduct, steps may be bypassed.

Class Rules

1. Arrive on time, or with a pass in hand.
2. Stay in your seat during class (except to sharpen pencil, or during some lab activities).
3. Raise your hand to talk (when appropriate), except sometimes during group work.
4. No disruptive behavior (ie: talking, note-passing, throwing things, etc.)
5. No vandalism (like writing on the desk).
6. Come to class prepared - have notebook, text, pen or pencil, completed homework.
7. No food, drink, or gum-chewing in class. This is a school-wide policy.
8. School cell phone policy: Cell phones may be used for instructional purposes only. Instructors will direct students to take out and put away their device as needed. At all other times, cell phones and ear buds should not be visible during the instructional period. Teachers may elect to collect cell phones during assessment or as part of their classroom procedures. Unauthorized cell phone use during class time may result in a discipline referral.

Parental Contact

Parents will be contacted when a student's grade falls below 70%, although day to day progress can be monitored via Crosspointe. Unacceptable conduct may also result in parental contact.

Academic Honor Code

Students are expected to uphold the honor code, and understand the consequences of choosing academic dishonesty. Not signing this code will not excuse a student from the consequences of choosing to be dishonest.

The instructors of this course take a very dim view of cheating, and violators will be treated accordingly.

Lab Donation

A \$10.00 donation is requested to help offset the cost of lab materials and equipment. Donations are not required and have no effect on grades, but are greatly appreciated.

Teacher Contact and Office Hours

I try very hard to be available to families for any reason. During the day, I have office hours between 12:15am – 1:45pm and I am usually also available in the evenings. You can contact me by e-mail at neal.gleitz@sarasotacountyschools.net or leave a message by calling PVS at 941-486-2001. I'll get back to you as soon as possible, almost always within 2 school days.

By the end of this year, it is entirely possible that you will know more about the Earth and space than the vast majority of adults in the world. But you will only be presented with the opportunity to learn; that knowledge will not come without your effort. What you get out of this class will be proportional to what you put into it. As Thomas Edison once said, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."

Student Name (print): _____

I have read the science laboratory safety rules (see separate sheet) and agree to comply.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date

I have read the course expectations and procedures.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date