

General Goals and Objectives

The goal of 8th grade science is to review the important information you have learned in your middle school career while expanding your knowledge in certain area so that you can be a scientifically literate member of society.



Academic Honesty

It is expected that any 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 another student, it is cheating. Cheating will result in negative consequences for ALL parties involved.

Make Up Work

One of your partners will place handouts in our Science Notebook 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.

Extra Help

If you need extra help, speak to me as soon as possible, so we can set a time either before or after school.

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!



Welcome to Eighth Grade Science

At
Woodcreek Middle School

Teacher: Ruben Ortegon
E-mail: ROrtego@humbleisd.net
School phone: 281-641-5275

I hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. 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 open your mind to the material at hand.

Eighth grade science is an integrated science course, with a focus on Earth Science. Major topics of study this year include:

- 1st nine weeks – Safety and Chemistry
- 2nd nine weeks –Force and Motion
- 3rd nine weeks –Earth and Space
- 4th nine weeks– Ecosystems/ STAAR Preparation/STEM 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 use the iScience textbook during science class, specifically when addressing the different teks for the unit. You will need it at school and you may use it as a reference at home.

Materials

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

2- Composition Books

1-Pack of Pencils

1-Color Pencils/Markers

Conference Time

My daily conference time is **5th period**. Please make an appointment through the school office or through my email address.

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 laboratories, activities and class projects. You are expected to follow all safety rules during laboratories. You will be given a job each 6 weeks to help the classroom run smoothly.

Our Classroom Rules

1. Be in your seat with all materials when the tardy bell rings.
2. Throw food away as you enter the classroom.
3. Pay attention to the teacher during **MY TIME**.
4. ***Wait in your seat until the teacher dismisses the class.***
5. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.

Grading System

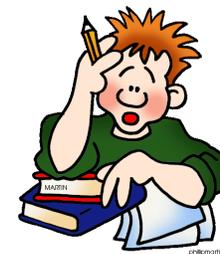
60% Summative
40% Formative
70% Summative (Honors)
30% Formative (Honors)

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.
- You will need your composition book every day.
- Begin your Warm-Up once class starts.
- Class time will consist of independent and group activities, laboratories, vocabulary work and review.
- You are expected to be respectful, responsible and cooperative in the classroom.
- ***The bell does not dismiss you, I do! You may not pack up until I dismiss the class.***



Homework

You will have homework assignments given to you each week. It will be due the next day. Keep up with the homework. You will not be given extra copies. Not completing the homework can affect test grades.