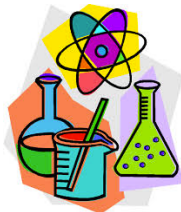


Miss Hardin – Room 16

8th Grade Science



The eighth grade science room is a place for exploration, experimentation, and discovery. This year, students will be covering the following topics:

Physical Science

Forces and Motion

This topic focuses on forces and motion within, on and around the Earth and within the universe. Students will learn that forces between objects act when the objects are in direct contact or when they are not touching, and that forces have magnitude and direction. We will end our year in physics with a rocket launch at the park!

Earth and Space Science

Physical Earth

This topic focuses on the physical features of Earth and how they formed. This includes the interior of Earth, the rock record, plate tectonics, and landforms. Students will study that the composition and properties of Earth's interior are identified by the behavior of seismic waves, and that Earth's crust consists of major and minor tectonic plates that move relative to each other.



Life Science

Species and Reproduction

This topic focuses on the continuation of the species, and that diversity of species occurs through gradual processes over many generations. Fossil records provide evidence that changes have occurred in number and types of species, and that reproduction is necessary for the continuation of every species.

Grading

This class takes a hands-on approach to learning and is project-based. That means that students will be doing plenty of group work, analyzing, and following the scientific method to conduct and complete labs and experiments.

With each project, students will be given a rubric that specifically breaks down each portion of what I will be looking for, and will also have a comments section for why they were graded in a particular way. Depending on the project, students may be graded on how well they worked with and participated within their group.

In order to prepare students for the challenges in high school, there will be frequent (and often unannounced) quizzes to ensure students are reviewing new class material nightly.

Grades will be posted promptly on GradeLock each week so students may keep up with their personal progress.



Science Fair

All eighth graders will participate in the science fair in January. Keep an eye out for more detailed information on this as the time draws closer.

Demerits

Students may receive a demerit for a missing or incomplete assignment, being rude or disruptive in class, or any other minor infractions. Once a student has accumulated five class-related demerits (forgetting his/her science book, homework incomplete, missing assignment, uncharged or forgotten Chromebook), he/she will receive a lower effort grade. Likewise with conduct, once a student has accumulated five behavior-related demerits (being rude, disruptive, talking when not supposed to), he/she will receive a lower conduct grade. This system will only be put in place within room 16.

We hope to have a great year!