**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Parent Signature (keep in binder/notes for reference). I have more copies if, needed for home.**

**Contact Information**
Ms. Maja Burris

mburris@lapeerschools.org

(810) 538-2344 ext. 3317

Room C-116

 **Sixth Grade Science Syllabus**

**Course Description**

**6th Grade** - This hands-on inquiry based course will focus on four science units throughout the year:

Energetic Connections, The Planet Rock, Earth: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow, and Energy in an

Ecosystem.

**Classroom Expectations**

1. Please see the **BOLT Matrix** for questions on any area in the school. **B**e… **O**rganized, **L**eaders, **T**rustworthy, **S**uccessful
2. **Classroom Expectations :**
	* + - **BE:**
			- **ORGANIZED**-Arrive on time (or before) with all necessary class materials
			- **LEADERS**- Follow all school and class rules. Use good manners and be a positive role model. Do/say the right thing even when no one is watching.
			- **TRUSTWORTHY-** Be kind and respectful to all people, property, and animals. Act in a civilized way and use your manners.
			- **SUCCESSFUL-** Participate appropriately (SLANT rules) and complete your work. Work hard, get smart, no excuses!
3. **Treatment of substitutes & consequences:** Students who disrupt the classroom environment or are rude to a substitute teacher will have parent contact made and an office referral will be made, if the behavior continues.
4. **Hall passes & bathroom visits: *Students are expected to use the five minutes between classes to get needed supplies, use the restroom, and get a drink of water.*** Students will be allowed to use the restroom during class by signing out when it is an “emergency” situation. If a medical condition exists requiring the student to use the restroom more frequently, please bring in a doctor’s note. All students need to get a pass from a teacher/adult to go somewhere other than their regularly scheduled classes.
5. **Tardiness:** You are tardy if you are **not in your seat at the start of the class hour**. Please be proactive in planning your daily routines so that you can get in the habit of being punctual to class.
6. **Citizenship Grade-** Students are given semester grades for appropriate class/school behaviors.

**O=Outstanding, S=Satisfactory, N=Needs Improvement, U=Unsatisfactory.**

1. **Technology-** During class cell phones should remain silent, not be touched, & not used. Headphones should not be used.

**General Classroom Discipline Steps:**

**Students receive a citizenship grade on their report card based their behavior.**

1. Verbal warning
2. Mark on behavior log
3. 1 minute owed after class to discuss behavior
4. 3-5 marks on behavior log in single month=parent contact

5. If inappropriate behavior continues, an office referral will be made

\*Severe inappropriate behavior will be referred to the office immediately.

**Required Materials for Class**

* Science binder, Notebook, Pencils, Assignment (if you had one)

**Evaluation Criteria**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Formative Assessment** | **Summative Assessment** | **Total** |
|  | Assessment/assignments that show the **“formation”** of learning/knowledge. | Assessments/assignments that show the total final “sum” of learning. |  |
|  | Practice assignments that help students “form” their knowledge | Tests/Quizzes/Etc. | Common Assessment |  |
| **6th**  | **30%** | **60%** | **10%** | **100%** |

**Formative Assessment** is part of the instructional process. When incorporated into classroom practice, it provides the information needed to adjust teaching and learning while they are happening. In this sense, formative assessment informs both teachers and students about student understanding at a point when timely adjustments can be made. These adjustments help to ensure students achieve targeted standards-based learning goals within a set time frame. Although formative assessment strategies appear in a variety of formats, there are some distinct ways to distinguish them from summative assessments. One distinction is to think of formative assessment as "practice."

**Summative Assessments** are given periodically to determine at a particular point in time what students know and do not know. Many associate summative assessments only with standardized tests such as state assessments, but they are also used at and are an important part of district and classroom programs. Summative assessment at the district/classroom level is an accountability measure that is generally used as part of the grading process. The list is long, but here are some examples of summative assessments: state assessments, district benchmark or interim assessments, end-of-unit or chapter quizzes/tests, end-of-term or semester exams (Garrison, 2012). **Works Cited**-Garrison, Catherine, and Michael Ehringhaus. "Formative and Summative Assessments in the Classroom." *Formative and Summative Assessment in the Classroom*. Association for Middle Level Education, n.d. Web. 30 Aug. 2012.<http://www.amle.org/publications/webexclusive/assessment/tabid/1120/default.aspx>.`

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  A 93-1001. 90-92

B+ 87-89B 83-861. 80-82

C+ 77-79 |  C 73-761. 70-72

D+ 67-69D 63-661. 60-62

F 0-59 | Formative AssessmentsA= AdvancedB=ProficientC=Partially ProficientD=Area of ConcernM or F=Missing, Unfinished, orNot able to scoreI=Incomplete (for summative assessments) |

**Grade Composition:**

Semester classes receive grades at the end of the semester.

 **January 18-First semester ends**

 **June 16-Final semester ends**

 **PowerSchool Website: Please check your *grad*es from PowerSchool on a regular basis, if possible. You should have PowerSchool login information on your schedule. Please contact the office for a login if you need one.**

**Tests/Quizzes**

1. Tests and Quizzes are summative assessments, in which they show what material the student has mastered.
2. Tests and Quizzes are based on accuracy, as they have had the opportunity for mastering understanding during the teaching of the lesson, classwork/homework practice.
3. Tests and quizzes will be based on classwork/homework and other topics assigned in class, such as projects and labs (formative assessments).
4. Students may retake a test, if needed/desired. Contact your teacher to make arrangements to study/retake. Depending on the assessment, students may be required to retake if they score below an 80% or are not proficient.

**Classwork /Homework**

1. **Frequency of Homework:** Students should study their science notes and vocabulary at least once a week at home. They should also spend time organizing their binder/notes. Class work will be sent home to be finished, as necessary. Additional homework may occur about twice a month.Students should study from the study guide for unit tests.
2. **Individual work** submitted is to be the student’s own. Copied work will result as an F in the grade book.
3. **Group Work Policies:** Students are expected to be active participants in their group, remain on-task, and work co-operatively
4. **Assignment Format**: Student work must be legible. All work must include the student name, date and class hour. Work should be completed in pencil, unless otherwise requested (final copy, project).

**Absent Work/Late Work**

* **Make-up Work:** **Please try your best to be present for every class, as much of our work is hands-on and we develop our understanding through in- class discussions of our activities.**  These full **class discussions are** **impossible to make-up, as we construct and build our learning together.**
* **Test and quizzes must be made up as soon as possible.** If extra study time is needed due to an extended absence, later rescheduling will be discussed.
* **Extra help:** I am available to meet with students by appointment for assistance. Our Learning Center is also utilized to assist students during class time.
* **Incomplete, Missing, or Failing Work Policy:** All students are expected to complete 100% of their school work. Arrangements will be made for all work to be completed. Missing work will be marked with an “m” in PowerSchool and graded as an F/0%until submitted. (Some missing assignments be exempted (EX), if the student was absent and we will be learning the concepts in additional ways during the unit) Students will be required to finish incomplete work. Poor quality/failing work may be redone, talk with your teacher.
* **Late work will be accepted for credit within the unit of study.**  Students will receive full credit for late assignments, although this will be reflected in their citizenship grade for the quarter.
* **Students are responsible to get the work they have missed due to an absence**. All assignments will be in the crate in the front of the room. All absent/late work must be turned in to the basket on the front teacher’s counter and will be accepted provided it is completed and handed in before the end of the unit of study. Please be aware that assignments not completed before tests/quizzes DIRECTLY impact the test/quiz score and will result in an F with an M for missing in the Gradebook. Please check PowerSchool frequently and avoid missing assignments.
* **PARENT NOTE/CALL FOR TIME EXTENSION-** In case of unforeseen circumstances (emergency, medical issue), a note or call from a parent or guardian will allow a student EXTRA TIME to turn in work without consequence.