

Life Science Course Syllabus

Mrs. Koski

7th Grade

Course Description: An introduction to basic ideas in biology and environmental science, using hands-on and inquiry based approaches. The topics presented may include the characteristics that are the basis for classifying organisms and the environments of organisms, and health.

Course Supplies: composition notebook, pocket folder for binder use, colored pencils, highlighters, markers, glue stick, index cards, 1" binder. The textbook is provided for home use.

Grading policies:

< Grades are based on a point system. Each assignment will vary in the point value based on the difficulty and length of the assignment.

< Late work will only be accepted in the case of excused absences. As per district policy, a student who has an excused absence will be given as many days as missed to complete assignments. The student must refer to the homework/Do Now binder for missed assignments and Do Now's. All other work that is turned in late will be scored as follows: 1 day late 25% off the total points, 2 days late 50% off the total, and 3 days late not credit.

< Tests will be given over chapter content approximately every 5 weeks depending on the length of the chapter and student progress. Vocabulary tests will be given weekly over the words that are being studied within the week.

< Students will participate in group projects and labs throughout the year and are responsible for completing their assigned part as well as helping with the completion of the overall product.

< Notebooks will be checked at two week intervals to evaluate student notes and summaries of concepts learned as well as vocabulary and drawings.

Classroom discipline

All students will be expected to maintain the following standards:

- *Use good manners with both teacher and peers
- *Be considerate and helpful with others
- *Use an appropriate tone when addressing the teacher. No talking back out of disrespect.
- *Use appropriate language at all times
- *Respect peoples space and belongings
- *Absolutely no cell phones out or in use in class unless allowed by teacher.

We use the Student Classroom Discipline form. The student will be redirected a maximum of 3 times if misbehaving and parent will be notified. If classroom consequences or parent contact have not yielded improvement in student behavior after the 3 attempts: I will notify security or counselor. A student discipline report will be submitted to the discipline officer for further disciplinary action.

Textbooks

*Students will be issued a textbook costing up \$85.00, at no charge. Should the book not be returned at the end of the course, the student is responsible for the replacement costs.

You may contact me via email at: mmk@pvs.k12.nm.us

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or need clarification on procedures, policies or to discuss student progress. If visiting my class, please adhere to the visitor's policy of stopping by the office for a guest pass and sign in.