Hill Country Middle School
7th Grade Science Course Syllabus
2018-2019

Teachers:	**Conference Period:**
Becky Berdoll	4th period (11:23-12:15)
Elisabeth Flohr	by appointment
Lindsay Hall	2nd period (9:31-10:23)
Katie Dawkins	4th period (11:56-12:48)

CONTENT:

7th grade science is a general science course with an emphasis in life science. A large portion of the course is devoted to cells and the systems of the human body. We will look at the functions of the body's parts and systems, as well as things that can affect the proper functioning of those systems. The course also explores force and motion, natural disasters, ecology and earth systems.

7th grade science will cover the following:

Scientific Inquiry
Cells & Cell Processes, Microscopes
Systems of the Body- Skeletal, Muscular, Digestive, Circulatory, Immune, Respiratory, Nervous, Sensory, Excretory, and Reproductive
Genetics, Variation, and Natural Selection
Ecology & Environment- Biomes, Biodiversity, Ecological Succession, Cycling of Matter, and Energy Levels
Earth Systems- Weathering, Erosion, Deposition, Ground and Surface Water, Natural Disasters
Manned Space Exploration

The supplied text, iScience (Grade 7) by McGraw-Hill, and many other resources are used to complement the course study. Students will have online access to this required text.

SUPPLIES:

All students are required to bring supplies, including all necessary handouts, and a **charged iPad** to class **EVERY day**. The seventh grade supply list includes all the required science materials. Additional daily materials needed include:

Ear buds
Specific pens/pencils (ex: colored pencils, black pen, etc.)

COMMUNICATION:

The best and quickest way to contact a teacher with individual questions or concerns is through email. Parents and students are greatly encouraged to use the teacher webpage, specifically the calendar. It will stay current and will offer needed information for student success. Our class calendar lists assignments, upcoming quizzes, tests and general topics of study. All teacher webpages and calendars can be accessed through the school's main homepage by clicking on "Directory", then finding the teacher name and clicking on the Weekly address.

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Elisabeth Flohr	eflohr@eanesisd.net
Lindsay Hall	lhall@eanesisd.net
Katie Dawkins	kdawkins@eanesisd.net

GRADING PROCEDURE/ MAKE-UP WORK:

Assessment mission statement: Eanes ISD Middle School teachers are committed to grading and assessing in the best interest of our students. We believe grades and assessments should communicate content knowledge, guide instruction, and reveal opportunities for enrichment and intervention.

Each nine weeks grade will be calculated as follows:

60%- "Major" (unit evaluations such as major tests, major projects, several specified labs, etc.)

40%- "Skill Development" (labs, worksheets, quizzes, homework, small projects, etc.)

Skill development grades will be entered in the grade book system within five days of the assignment due date and major tests, and/or projects may take up to ten days before being posted in the grade book. Skill development work must be completed by the due date; late work is not accepted and may result in a zero. Major projects will be accepted late with a -10 point penalty per day.

Students are responsible for work missed when absent. The teacher assignment calendar should be used as a resource while out or upon return for make-up work. Students are given one day for each day absent to make up an assignment.

Late Work- We expect all work to be turned in on time. If there is consistent pattern of late work, it will be necessary to have the late work made up in Saturday School. A possible point deduction may be applied based on teacher discretion.

Re-testing is available for any student who makes below an 80 on a major test, provided they follow the steps in our retesting contract. Retesting is intended for the occasional difficulty with content mastery. When students retest on a regular basis, parents will be contacted and a study plan will be developed if needed. The highest a student can earn on a re-test is a 80. Students should see their teacher for re-testing procedures, including filling out a re-testing contract.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR:

Expectations are posted in the classroom. In the cases of rule infraction, detention, parent contact, and/or office referrals will be used. Other consequences for behavior can be found in the Student Code of Conduct.

TEXAS ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE and SKILLS (TEKS) FOR 7TH GRADE SCIENCE:

(1) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student conducts laboratory and field investigations following safety procedures and environmentally appropriate and ethical practices.
(2) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student uses scientific practices during laboratory and field investigations.
(3) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student uses critical thinking, scientific reasoning, and problem solving to make informed decisions and knows the contributions of relevant scientists.
(4) Science investigation and reasoning. The student knows how to use a variety of tools and safety equipment to conduct science inquiry.
(5) Matter and energy. The student knows that interactions occur between matter and energy.
(6) Matter and energy. The student knows that matter has physical and chemical properties and can undergo physical and chemical changes.
(7) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that there is a relationship among force, motion, and energy.
(8) Earth and space. The student knows that natural events and human activity can impact Earth systems.
(9) Earth and space. The student knows components of our solar system.
(10) Organisms and environments. The student knows that there is a relationship between organisms and the environment.
(11) Organisms and environments. The students knows that populations and species demonstrate variation and inherit many of tier unique traits through gradual processes over time
(12) Organisms and environments. The student knows that living systems at all levels of organization demonstrate the complementary nature of structure and function.
(13) Organisms and environments. The student knows that a living organism must be able to maintain balance in stable internal conditions in response to external and internal stimuli.
(14) Organisms and environments. The student knows that reproduction is a characteristic of living organisms and that the instructions for traits are governed in the genetic material.