

SCHOOL: Atlantic Middle School
ADDRESS: 86 Hollis Avenue
PHONE #: 617-984-8727

SYLLABUS

TEACHER Ms. Glynn Mullen

COURSE/GRADE LEVEL Eighth Grade Science

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Prentice Hall Science Explorer Series, Assignment Discovery Videos, internet resources, and supplemental materials. Also, class website accessed through quincypublicschools.com.

MAJOR TOPICS* (not listed in the order they will be taught during the academic year).

- I. Earth Science Earth's History and Processes, review of astronomy as time allows.
- II. Life Science Cell Theory, Cell Structure & Function, Life Processes (including body systems review as time allows), Hierarchical Organization, Plants, Genetics & Heredity, (Including DNA & Mendel), introduce Darwinian Evolution.
- III. Physical Science Review of grade 7 chemistry as time allows: Atomic Theory, Electron Diagramming and Configuration, Physical and Chemical Properties, Valences, Elements, Mixtures, Compounds, Acids, Bases, pH, Periodic Table, Law of Conservation of Matter & Kinetic Molecular Theory of Matter. Also, the Conservation of Energy (Potential, Kinetic, and Chemical). If time allows, review the Laws of Motion, Newton's Three Laws, Heat, Work.

Included in each topic is the **process of inquiry**, which encompasses all of the following but is not limited to:

SI Measurements

Design and Develop a Scientific Inquiry

Compare and Contrast Data

Make, Understand and Interpret Graphs (line, pie and bar) from Collected Data (in conjunction with Math class)

Evaluate and Communicate Results of Scientific Investigations

Know and Use Scientific Equipment

When time allows, an attempt will be made for 8th graders to review material covered in the 6th & 7th grade such Astronomy, Weather, Environmental Science, Forces & Motion. Refer to the Parent Handbook for End of the Year Standards, 8th grade.

***ASSESSMENT TOOLS: Eight grade assessment tools may be used but are not limited to the following :**

Class Participation	Projects	Notebooks	Homework
Objective Tests/Quizzes	Portfolios	Rubrics	MCAS Testing
Teacher observations	Lab practical	Map illustrations	Video tapings
Oral presentation Rubrics	Presentations	Field Experience	Research papers
Self-grading and evaluations	Norm reformed tests	Document Analysis	Journal Reflections
Interdisciplinary activities	Simulations, Role playing	Open ended questions	
Multimedia presentations	Co-operative learning projects	Essays	
Take home tests/writing assignments		FCA'S for long essays	

***See Individual Student Education Plans or 504 Plans for modification where applicable.**

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Homework should be completed on time with students' full name, division, date, & HW assignment #. Students should use pencil or dark ink. Homework is posted online at www.schoolnotes.com.

Parents & students should know that extra copies of lost homework are not available. Making homework photocopies is both costly & time consuming, thus is limited. Students are expected to stay organized and current with their homework assignments. Please also note that **late projects are not accepted**. Extended time as per IEP/504 plans is built into all projects prior to the due date, not after.

www.new.schoolnotes.com OR through www.mrsmullen.com

GRADING POLICY

Class Participation	15%	Tests	20%
Homework	15%	Projects	20%
Quizzes	15%	Notebook	15%

MAKEUP PROCEDURE

Late work should be completed within 1-2 days of the assignment for reduced credit. Work submitted after 2 days will not be graded. Students out sick are still expected to complete homework assignments and be prepared for quizzes/tests. Under extreme circumstances, sick students may turn in make-up work upon prior approval, within 10 school days of the assignment.

Repeated make-ups for tests & quizzes are not allowed. One general make-up will be given per term. Accommodations may be made for chronically ill students/extended absence.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Class Materials:

- A writing utensil is required at all times. Students who do not come to class prepared will have points deducted from their class participation grade.
- Science Notebooks are required for the class. Each student must maintain a 3 ring binder and decorate the cover in a full collage with words and pictures that tell me something about themselves. Specific directions regarding notebook requirements will be given. A one page description of this interactive notebook counts as the first project and is due within the first week of school. As this is a mandatory requirement, students must complete their notebook projects on time.
- Students should also have folders or pockets in which to keep work.
- Gluesticks, highlighters, and colored pencils for science diagrams are helpful.

Field Experiences:

Students may attend field trips during the year. One annual trip will be to the BU CityLab. The 8th grade year will also be anchored by two integrated curricula trips: Old Sturbridge Village and Lowell Mills. Students may also occasionally work outside, or participate in outdoor extra credit opportunities such as Wollaston beach clean-ups and data collection.

***Adjustments may be made in this syllabus to meet student needs.**

HW001 **Parent/Student signature regarding Ms. Glynn's rules and expectations, DUE: Monday**
HW002 **First Day Survey, DUE: Monday**

Project 001: Science Interactive Notebook DUE NO LATER THAN: