

7th/8th Grade Science Class Syllabus

2019-2020 School Year

Teacher Information

<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Office Location</i>
Julian Cutshall	cutshallj@wcde.org	423-283-3500	Room A140, BCES

Course Curriculum

The 7th and 8th grade science curriculum concentrates on the engineering design process and offers labs/activities to help students learn concepts by conducting many hands-on activities in the classroom. The varied course topics of Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics will provide students with a well-rounded foundation of content knowledge for later high school/college science courses. The investigations and lab experiments will allow the students to continually practice solving problems, which is essential for any science course.

Standards

8th grade

- 8.PS2:2 - Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that fields exist between objects exerting forces on each other even though the objects are not in contact.
- 8.PS4:1 - Develop and use models to represent the basic properties of waves including frequency, amplitude, wavelength, and speed.
- 8.LS4:1 - Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change in life forms throughout Earth's history.
- 8.ESS1:2 - Explain the role of gravity in the formation of our sun and planets. Extend this explanation to address gravity's effect on the motion of celestial objects in our solar system and Earth's ocean tides.
- 8.ESS3:1 - Interpret data to explain that earth's mineral, fossil fuel, and groundwater resources are unevenly distributed as a result of geologic processes.

7th grade

- 7.PS1:1 - Classify matter as pure substances or mixtures based on composition.
- 7.LS1:2 - Conduct an investigation to demonstrate how the cell membrane maintains homeostasis through the process of passive transport.
- 7.LS2:1 - Develop a model to depict the cycling of matter, including carbon and oxygen, including the flow of energy among biotic and abiotic parts of an ecosystem.

- 7.ESS3:1 - Graphically represent the composition of the atmosphere as a mixture of gases and discuss the potential for atmospheric change.

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to be on time every day while exhibiting a positive attitude. Students are also expected to bring all materials to class each day. Students are to organize and keep their class binder up to date. All students are expected to build teamwork skills while working in groups. Each student is to contribute to the group in their own manner. I have high expectations for every student!

Required Materials

- **SEE SUPPLY LIST**

Classroom Rules

Students are expected to follow all district and school rules. Specific classroom rules are posted in the class and should be followed by all students. Special safety rules will be issued for labs. If students do not follow lab rules, they will not be permitted to do labs. In addition to my rules, all Boones Creek Elementary School rules apply.

- Listen and stay seated at all times.
- Be in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings.
- Bring all materials to class.
- No FOOD in the classroom. No FOOD or DRINKS on lab days.
- Respect yourself and others.
- ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself at all times.
- Turn in all homework on time or there will be penalties. 20 points will be taken off for each assignment turned in late.
- Give 100%, 100% of the time.
- No backpacks in the classroom.

Due Dates and Absences

Assignments are due at the beginning of the period unless otherwise specified. If you are absent during a class period then you will have until the day after you return to turn that assignment in to me. You are responsible for any work that you miss due to being absent. If you are absent, your work will be in the back of the classroom where I showed you (black bin). BE PRESENT!! Labs are important!

Laboratory Experiments

Laboratory equipment is expensive and can be dangerous. I expect students to act responsibly during lab experiments. Accidents do happen, however, if excessive carelessness is responsible for breakage, the student is responsible for the cost of the item(s).

Labs are FUN! They can make science FUN and interesting! The number of labs we conduct in class will depend solely on student's behavior and respect. If I can trust that the students will conduct the experiment in a mature manner, then labs will be done often. If not, then we will be doing very few/ or zero labs this year.

Students will be given instructions on how to write a proper lab report. I strictly enforce writing a lab report correctly. I will walk each and every student step by step through their first lab report and will give very detailed instructions.

Students will be given pictures and names of "common laboratory equipment". Students will also be given safety rules and symbols that pertain to every lab we will conduct. Students will be TESTED on these rules and equipment at the beginning and during other random times throughout the semester.

CELL PHONES

The school has a NO cell phone policy, thus, I ask them to be kept in their lockers at all times. If I see a cell phone, it will be taken up. If you have an emergency and need to call home, please let me know.

<u>Grading Procedures</u>		<u>Grading Scale</u>
Tests	35%	A = 93-100
Classwork/Homework	25%	B = 85-92
Labs/Projects	20%	C = 77-84
Quizzes	20%	D = 70-76
		F = 0-69

Extra Credit

Students will be given an extra credit opportunity during many times throughout the year if needed. If you feel like you need extra credit, please let me know as soon as possible.

Tutoring

I will be available to each and every student if extra assistance is needed. If tutoring is needed, you need to come to ME and let me know so we can set up tutoring arrangements. I will be available before/after school to help you get caught up.

Syllabus Acknowledgment

To students and Parent/Guardian,

Good communication between teachers and parents is essential to maximize the success of students. With this in mind, please take a moment to complete this syllabus acknowledgement and return it to me by way of your student. It will counted as their FIRST homework assignment.

Students will be involved in performing various laboratory experiments. Again, I expect them to act responsibly during these labs. Also, please provide any allergies that your child may have. We will be using many different chemicals and household items in class.

I will attempt to communicate with you about your student's progress in this class on a regular basis. I hope you will feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail at any time to discuss your student's progress. We are using the app called "BAND" to get school wide messages home. I will also be using "CLASS DOJO" to send individual messages home. I will be sending home letters regarding class dojo tomorrow. Please download both of these apps if you can. We are striving to see all students succeed at BCES. This can only happen if everyone works TOGETHER.

Please sign and date the section below to indicate that you reviewed the course syllabus and agree to assist with the communication necessary to reach our goals.

Student Allergies (do not have to list medicines)

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____