**Course Descriptions:**

This year you will be exploring science with me as your teacher. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that as an 8th grade student, you will have a science EOG at the end of the year. This year in science, we will be exploring several different areas. We will begin with the unit of hydrology and will be followed by ecosystems, chemistry, microbiology, and geology to name a few.

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| Science |
| 1 Marbled Composition Notebook ONLY |
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| **Paper,Pencils, Blue or Black Ink Pens, Highlighters, and Erasers** |

**Standards:**

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| Science |
| **Standard 1:** Understand the properties of matter and changes that occur when matter interacts in an open and closed container. |
| **Standard 2:** Explain the environmental implications associated with the various methods of obtaining, managing, and using energy resources |
| **Standard 3:** Understand the hydrosphere and the impact of humans on local systems and the effects of the hydrosphere on humans. |
| **Standard 4:** Understand the history of Earth and its life forms based on evidence of change recorded in fossil records and landforms. |
| **Standard 5:** Understand the hazards caused by agents of diseases that affect living organisms |
| **Standard 6:** Understand how biotechnology is used to affect living organisms.. |
| **Standard 7:** Understand how organisms interact with and respond to the biotic and abiotic components of their environment. |
| **Standard 8:** Understand the evolution of organisms and landforms based on evidence, theories and processes that impact the Earth over time. |
| **Standard 9:** Understand the composition of various substances as it relates to their ability to serve as a source of energy and building materials for growth and repair of organisms. |

**Grading Policy:**

Grades will be assigned by the following percentages based on earned points. **50%** of the points will be weighted from tests (including projects), **30%** from class work and quizzes (including labs), **20%** from homework and all other work. **Students that are absent are required to come to me and ask for their make-up work. I will not come to them. Students that have not been absent but did not complete homework or other assignments, have until the next day to turn it in. The best the student can make on that assignment will be half credit. They must hand it in directly to the teacher at the beginning of class; otherwise they will receive zero credit.** Grades will be given on the county mandated 7-point grading scale. 93-100%-A; 85-92%-B; 77-84%-C; 70-76%-D; 0-69%-F.

**Class Expectations:**

Students are expected to enter class promptly and quietly. They are expected to be in their seats with their all of their materials at the start of the period. Profane language and misbehavior will not be tolerated. In the classroom, learning is expected along with some setbacks so working collaboratively is expected from each and every student. Above all, respect is always earned and should be given. Students that don’t follow the rules will follow the conduct code set forth by the teacher. Following the directions of the teacher will result in a great time and a great learning environment.

**Lab Expectations:**

While in science class, we will be conducting lab experiments that sometimes can be dangerous. It is imperative that all students listen and follow directions given by the teacher so that all goes well.

1. Students will not misbehave or play with equipment while performing labs. Neither will they participate in behavior that is disruptive, dangerous, or interferes with the learning process of others.
2. While performing labs, students must wear all appropriate attire (i.e. goggles, gloves, and other protective materials) throughout. Students with long hair should pull hair back and roll sleeves up.
3. Students will work only at their assigned workstations and will follow and listen to all directions before they begin the lab.
4. Students are not allowed to eat, drink, or participate in any other activities while performing the lab.
5. Student will clean up their workstation and return all materials to their proper order so that the next class can use them.
6. All accidents no matter how large or small must be reported to the teacher.
7. Not following the rules will result in a dismissal of the lab and a zero for the assignment.

**Contact Information**

Mr. Matkins

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