

Mr. VanDyke's 8th Grade Science Class Policies

Welcome to 8th grade science. In this class we will investigate a number of topics including:
Properties of Matter, Atoms, Periodic Table, Compounds, and Chemical Reactions
Electricity and Magnetism
Energy and Waves.
Forces and Motion

We will do so using the "Focus on Physical Science" textbook, worksheets, notes, demonstrations, and hands-on laboratory experiments. The purpose of science is to gain a better understanding of the world around us, so I encourage all students to actively participate in class activities and discussion.

I am available for help after school most days, or at other times by appointment.

*Parents: The fastest way to contact me is by email tvandyke@hartdistrict.org.
Otherwise, the school number is 296-0991 and my extension is 1903.*

***Please use my website <http://vandyke8science.weebly.com/>
when absent, for incomplete classwork, for downloading notes and worksheets, etc.

I. Classroom Conduct

The main rule in class is:

Be a positive force in your learning environment and the learning of others.

In addition, all Arroyo Seco school rules are enforced.

If these rules are not followed, the following consequences will be imposed.

1st consequence:	Verbal warning	
2nd consequence:	Teacher / Student conference	(Step 1/standards)
3rd consequence:	Letter or Telephone call to parents	(Step 2/standards)
4th consequence:	Referral to Asst. Principal / Counselor	(Step 3/standards)

***Consequences 1 through 3 may be skipped depending on the severity of the misbehavior.

II. Grading Policy

- Grades are an indication of effort and achievement on assignments.
- Students will keep track of their grade on the Assignment Sheet in their Science Notebook.
- To calculate your grade, divide the "Points Earned" by the "Points Possible".

The following percentage scale will be used:

A+ =above 97%, A =94-97, A- =90-93	B+ =87-89, B =83-86, B- =80-82
C+ =77-79, C =73-76, C- =70-72	D+ =67-69, D=63-66, D- =60-62
F =Below 60%	

III. Materials

Students will be required to bring the following materials to class everyday:

- 3-ring notebook with dividers (Separate notebook only for science)
- Lined notebook paper
- Pencil (Pen is not to be used on any assignment)
- ***Calculator*** (an inexpensive one that +,-,X, ÷ is sufficient)

-There will be daily entries in the notebook including an Agenda, Warm-up, and Class work.

-Notebooks will be checked each quarter for a grade.

-See "Notebook Organization" sheet for details on how the notebook will be set up.

IV. Homework Policy

- Homework assignments will be copied into the Student's "Binder Reminder"
- Homework will be assigned on average 4 days per week, about 20 minutes per night.
- It will be checked or collected at the beginning of the period on the day it is due.

V. Tests

- A Chapter Test will be given at the end of each chapter.
- There will be several days notice before a test (check Binder Reminder).
- We will always review before a test and have a review homework assignment.
- I do not offer test re-takes or extended time, so make sure you are well prepared for tests.

VI. Activities and Labs

- Students must pass the "Science Safety Test" in order to do activities and labs.
- We will do several group activities and/or labs for most chapters.
- Students must have all other work complete and up to date to participate.
***Those who do not will catch up on missing work to make up for the labs.

VII. Extra Credit

- I do not offer separate assignments for extra credit, as it detracts from the assigned work.
- Extra Credit can be earned on some assignments by going above and beyond what is expected.
(Examples: Challenge Problems on Worksheets and Tests, A very in-depth Lab Conclusion)

Late Work Policy

- All work must be turned in complete and on time to receive full credit. Work turned in up to 3 days late will receive up to half credit. No credit will be given after 3 days.
- It is the **student's responsibility** to obtain from the teacher and complete any **missed class work or homework**.
Check for missed assignments: (1) on the class website; (2) in the Teacher's Science Notebook; (3) with the teacher after class; or (4) with other students.
- One day will be given for each excused absence day to make up missed work.
- Students will be required to make up any **missed quizzes or tests**, usually during class on the day they return.

We have read and understand the rules and policies on these pages.

Print Name _____ Period _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____