

# Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Mrs. Esposito

2016 - 2017

## Goal:

To establish a supportive, caring and trusted relationship with students while gaining knowledge of biological, physical, and earth processes which affect them through meaningful experiences. To prepare students for future college and/or work expectations and to provide students with rigorous content by applying higher level knowledge through higher order thinking skills.

## Course Content:

- Use of lab equipment
- Science and Engineering Practices
- Chemical Reactions
- Cells
- Energy and Earth's Systems
- Ecosystems
- Human Impact on Ecosystems
- Family Life

## Materials Needed:

- glue stick
- supply of pens and pencils (include a pencil pouch)
- highlighter pens (yellow and pink)
- color pencils (basic pack)
- Spiral Notebook (preferably 8 ½ X 11 college rule paper)

## Textbook:

Each student will be assigned a textbook. This book is to be kept at home. A copy will be provided in the classroom for daily use.

**Attendance:** Excessive absences will greatly affect the success of each student. Typically for each day missed it takes a student 2 days to catch up. If a student is absent it will be his/her responsibility to go online to teacher website to check the daily assignment. Go to the King website and under "Our School" in the dropdown menu select "Teachers." You will find the teacher website under Lita Esposito. Assignments will be due upon return. In the event of an emergency, parents may contact me at [lita.esposito@oside.us](mailto:lita.esposito@oside.us) or 760-901-8800 X8857. You may also call a study buddy. Any absences must be reported to the attendance office (760-901-8800). If absent on a lab day the student will be excused from the lab.

## Tardies:

Plain and simple, be on time! Students must be in the classroom when the bell rings. Any student arriving late must have a pass.

## Science Journal/Taking Notes:

It is expected that students take organized, legible notes. Students will be introduced to the Cornell style of note taking. A well maintained science journal will make it easier to study and retrieve information.

## Academic Grade - Exams, Labs, and Projects:

A = 90% - 100%	Assessments = 25%
B = 80% - 89%	Unit Projects = 25%
C = 70% - 79%	Lab Write-Ups = 25%
D = 60%-69%	Assignments = 25%
F = 59% and below	

Exams may be retaken for an improved grade. This opportunity is opened to all students. An alternate version (covering the same standards) of the original exam will be administered. A review will be given prior to the retake date in which students will take notes on missed items. In order to be eligible for this opportunity, students must present these item corrections on retake day. Our focus is to understand not memorize the material.

### **Consequences for behavior:**

A culture of learning, safety, and fun will be fostered in our class. Student behavior greatly impacts this culture. A system of rewards and consequences will be implemented in class.

#### Positive Rewards

- Verbal praise
- Non-Verbal praise (thumbs up, etc.)
- Positive calls home
- Esposito's Student of the Week
- Self pride
- Lion Pride Award

#### Corrective Consequences

- Verbal Warning (1<sup>st</sup> offense)
- Time-Out Reflection (2<sup>nd</sup> offense, Aeries log)
- Phone call home (3<sup>rd</sup> offense, Aeries log)
- Class suspension (4<sup>th</sup> offense, Aeries log)
- Referral (5<sup>th</sup> offense, Aeries log)

In the event of a "severe" negative behavior (theft, fighting, vandalism, etc) campus security will be contacted and the student will be escorted to the office for administrative consequences.

### **Quality of work:**

All work must be neat and organized. Any disorganized work difficult to read may need to be rewritten. Take pride in what you turn in. Try your best.

### **Assignment load:**

There will be one major exam and several quizzes per unit. There will be several lab activities per unit to provide hands-on experiences that support the curriculum.

### **Tutoring:**

If a student so desires, he/she may make an appointment with the teacher for a lunchtime tutoring session. Tutoring will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### **Final Thoughts**

This year is going to be exciting and filled with so many new and intriguing things to learn, discuss, and think about. Let's get busy!

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Policies and Procedures

I have read Mrs. Esposito's class syllabus and will abide by the rules of this class. I understand that what is most important is my best effort and respect for the learning environment.

I understand that not doing my own work will violate our class code of honor and that honor and integrity are two qualities that have meaning and purpose in this class.

Student Name (Print)\_\_\_\_\_ Per.\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Student Comments:

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