

Living Earth Course Syllabus

2018-19

Introduction

Welcome to Living Earth!!! Based on the Next Generation Science Standards, we will explore relationships between the living and nonliving components of Earth's systems. By using science and engineering practices, cross-cutting disciplinary concepts, and evidence from experiments, research, and observations, you will learn how to formulate questions, evaluate claims, and develop models to make interpretations and investigate the natural world.

Success in this course will depend on students' study skills, reading and writing abilities, motivation, and maturity. Self-discipline is important because there will be a daily check on homework and group work. The topics of study by semester will be:

Fall Semester

Science Skills
Ecosystems Interactions & Energy
Structure, Function, Growth
History of Earth's Atmosphere
Photosynthesis and Respiration

Spring Semester

Evidence of Evolution
Inheritance of Traits
Ecosystem Stability & the Response
to Climate Change

A. Grading Policies

Assessments (Test & Quizzes) 50%- Test and quizzes will have multiple-choice, short answer and/or illustrations to describe science concepts. If a quiz/test is missed, be prepared to complete on the day you come back afterschool, unless otherwise noted.

Interactive Science Notebook (ISN)/ Participation 30%- You will be creating an interactive notebook in class. Most of your assignments and most labs will be completed in the ISN, other assignments will be turned in separately. You will have the responsibility of keeping track of your work until it is time to turn it in**Never throw anything away for the entire semester, your graded papers are your proof that you have completed an assignment. You must have your ISN with you EVERY DAY!!!

Projects/Formal Lab Reports 20%- Projects and labs will be completed for full credit. If you are a creative, this is your opportunity to gain a better grade. Formal lab reports will be collected separately from the ISN.

The grade percentiles are as follows:

A 90-100% **B** 80-89% **C** 70-79% **D** 60-69% **F** 59-0%

B. Classroom and Laboratory Policies

1. Be seated when the tardy bell rings.
2. Conduct yourself in a respectful manner.
 - Respect yourself and others
 - Ensure the proper use of all materials
 - Speak only after raising your hand
 - Polite behavior only
 - Expect to follow directions the first time
 - Come to school prepared
 - Try, try, try to always do your best
3. NO eating or drinking in class. Please dispose of these items at the door.
4. Follow all lab procedures and directions. **Safety** is the number one priority.



5. The instructor dismisses the class, not the bell. **Do not wait by the door for class to end.**

C. Consequences:

Positive Consequences

Classroom perks: music, homework pass
Positive phone call home

Negative Consequences

1st offense: Verbal Warning
2nd offense: Teacher conference/Phone home
3rd offense: Detention
4th offense: Office referral

D. Absences and Late Work

You will be given one week to make up in-class/homework assignments, unless otherwise instructed. Quizzes, test, and labs will be taken the day you get back afterschool. **For test and lab makeups, if missed, it will not be rescheduled.** It is **your responsibility** to find out what work you have missed and pick it up from me. You can access assignments on <https://mrsrivaslivingearth2018-19.blogspot.com/>.

E. Suggested Class Materials

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| - At least 70-page notebook | - pencil sharpener |
| - Pencils | - clear tape |
| - Color pencils | - Dry erase marker |

F. Student Survey:

1. My favorite type of science is _____ because _____
 2. In science, I wonder about _____
 3. What I enjoy the most in the classroom is _____
 4. I wish my science teacher knew _____
- _____
- _____

G. Student Expectations Contract

As a student enrolled in **Living Earth**, I understand the importance of assignments and studying in order to earn the grade I deserve. I will come to class prepared and on time every day. This means I will have pens, pencils, paper, INB, and my completed assignments. I will also follow the guidelines given in the course syllabus, keeping my copy inside my notebook for future reference. I understand that I can go to my instructor for help whenever I need it, and that I need to stay on top of my work in order to be successful. I will show this syllabus to my parents, we will all sign it, and I will return it to my instructor tomorrow.

I have read and understood what is expected of me to become a successful student in the Living Earth course. I have also shared this document with my parent/guardian.

Print student's name

Student's signature

Date

Print Parent/guardian's name

Parent/guardian's signature

Date