

Jefferson County Middle School

3232 Hwy 296

Louisville, GA. 30434

School Number: (478) 625-7764

School Website: <http://www.jefferson.k12.ga.us>

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Grade Level: 6th

Subject: Earth Science

Planning Period: 10:10-11:40

Course Description/Rationale

This course involves a general framework with an Earth Science emphasis. This will include hands-on activities to implement the process skills, metric measurement, equipment use, and safety. Students will be engaged in laboratory experiences designed to highlight the scientific process, including scientific research, the universe and earth systems such as meteorology, hydrology, oceanography, and geology.

Sixth grade science provides students the opportunity to learn critical science concepts through hands-on activities, discussion, and inquiry. To promote lifelong learning, the students will be actively involved in their scientific endeavors with the applications of process skills and knowledge to solve scientific problems. The sixth grade curriculum specifically focuses on the following strands: matter, geology, astronomy, meteorology, atmosphere, and water cycles.

Outline of Course

These units that will be taught during the year:

- Astronomy -1st 9 weeks
- Meteorology and Weather– 2nd 9 weeks
- Geology and Plate tectonics– 3rd 9 weeks
- Natural Resources – 4th 9 weeks

The Science Georgia Standards of Excellence drive instruction. Hands-on, student-centered, and inquiry-based approaches will be the emphasis of instruction. The standards are a required minimum set of expectations that show proficiency in science. However, instruction can extend beyond these minimum expectations to meet student needs. At the same time, these standards set a maximum expectation on what will be assessed by the Georgia Milestones Assessment System. Science consists of a way of thinking and investigating, as well a growing body of knowledge about the natural world. To become literate in science, students need to possess sufficient understanding of fundamental science content knowledge, the ability to engage in the science and engineering practices, and to use scientific and technological information correctly. Technology will be infused into the curriculum and the safety of the student will always be foremost in instruction.

The Standards of Excellence for 6th Grade Earth Science in the state of Georgia can be found at the link below:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Sixth-Grade-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

Grading Policy

- Weighted Grades/ Percents
 - Homework/ Classwork -1
 - Formative/Quiz-2
 - Summative/ projects- 3
- Grading
 - Firm due dates
 - Missing or unfinished assignments receive a 0
 - Rubrics for grading across content assignments, project, and constructed writing responses (keywords)
 - Cheating policy-0 and write up

Supplies

- Pencils with erasers
- Pens (Black or Blue ink only. NO RED!)
- 4 Spiral notebooks or Composition Book
- Colored pencils, markers, glue are optional supplies
- Index Cards

Students should bring bookbag with paper, writing utensils, and notebooks to class **daily**. (Students are encouraged to leave notebooks in the classroom unless they have a test or an unfinished assignment.)

Food and Electronic Devices

Food and drink are not allowed outside of the cafeteria. Electronic devices should not be seen or heard unless they are being used for a class activity.

Expectations/ Consequences / Discipline

Students must follow the JCMS Student Code of Conduct which is found in the handbook. Students must follow all classroom rules as well. These are listed below, will be discussed in class, and are posted inside the classroom.

Classroom Expectations

- Listen when someone is talking.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Treat everyone with kindness and respect.
- Take care of our school and classroom.
- Work and play safely and quietly.
- It's okay to make a mistake.

Consequences for Misbehavior

1st Infraction- Verbal Warning

2nd Infraction- Teacher Conference with Student

3rd Infraction- Parent Contact

4th Infraction- Isolation/ Removal to another class to complete assignment/ Detention

5th Infraction - Parent/Student/Team/Administrative Conference

6th Infraction – Administrative Referral

** Students and parents should review the School-Wide Discipline Plan in the Student Handbook.

Required Projects

(Tentative List - some projects may change at the discretion of teacher)

- Design A Planet Project (August 2020)
- Weather Project TBA(October 2020)
- Water Cycle Project TBA (November 2020)
- Rock Collection Project (January 2021)
- Solar Car Project (February 2021)
- Sustainable Model Project (April 2021)

** Rubrics and instructions will be given for each major project