



6th Grade Science

Yorba Linda Middle School

Ms. Sweet

Room 20



WELCOME!

Welcome to Yorba Linda Middle School 6th grade Science class! I am looking forward to a great year. I am here to assist you in any way that I am able. Here are ways to contact me:

Email address→ **ssweet@pylusd.org**

Phone # → **714-986-7080 x24220** (*checked at the end of the day*)

Website Access→ **www.ylms.org**

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

CONTENT~

- **Curriculum:** **Open Sci Ed**—This curriculum supports science learning through phenomenon-based, three-dimensional units that prioritize understanding and sensemaking. **NO TEXTBOOK**→ student notes, activities, and labs act as the text
- **6th Grade Science Units:**
 - ~ Lab Safety, Light and Matter, Energy, Weather, Plate Tectonics, Cells and Systems

DAILY SUPPLIES~

- | | |
|--|--|
| • <u>Composition</u> Notebook (80-100 pages) | - Folder / Specific Pocket for <u>Science only</u> |
| • Pencils & Highlighters | - 2 Red or Green ball-point pens (<i>for correcting</i>) |
| • Student Agenda (<i>available in office</i>) | - Colored Pencils (<i>can be shared w/ other classes</i>) |
| • Charged Chromebook/Laptop (<i>w/ charger</i>) | - 1 or 2 Expo Markers (<i>shared w/ other classes</i>) |

GRADES~

- Grades will be given in percentage, letter, or credit/half credit/no credit format.
- Final grades will be based upon the **weighted** average of:
 - ~ assessments
 - ~ homework & class activities
- Grades will be posted on **AERIES** and updated periodically. **Please make it a priority to check student online grades through AERIES on a regular basis!** [*Google classroom does not reflect the accurate overall Science grade.*]

GRADING SCALE~

- All grades will be reflected as points, letter(s), or credit/half-credit/no credit.
- **No personal extra credit is offered.**
- **Assessments** will be worth **55%** of the overall Science grade.
- **Homework / Classwork** will be worth **45%** of the overall grade.
- No late/absent work will be accepted after the closing date of the quarter.

A+	98.5%	100%		C+	77.5%	79.4%		D-	59.5%	63.4%
A	93.5%	98.4%		C	73.5%	77.4%		F	0	59.4%
A-	89.5%	93.4%		C-	69.5%	73.4%				
B+	87.5%	89.4%		D+	67.5%	69.4%				
B	83.5%	87.4%		D	63.5%	67.4%				
B-	79.5%	83.4%								

HOMework~

- Homework assignments are **INDEPENDENT** activities, and are only to be completed by an individual student using his/her notes and materials. Homework is **NOT** to be completed with another student nor another student's paper...both are considered **cheating**!
- **Online assignments** are due by **8:30 AM** on the due date. **Paper assignments** are due at the **very beginning of the class period**.
- **Late homework will be accepted only up to THREE days late for REDUCED CREDIT each day based on work quality.**
 - **Late x1= 70% of score**
 - **Late x2= 60% of score**
 - **Late x3= 50% of score**
- Homework and/or class work will be assigned daily or weekly.
- Paper headings must include **name** with teacher assigned **Science number, date**, and the **assignment specifics**. It is expected that homework meets or exceeds the YLMS standards listed in the student agenda.
- **Homework is listed daily on my classroom's homework board and the Weekly Agenda of assignments is posted in Google Classroom (*Streaming page*). Individual assignments are also posted in Google Classroom (*Classwork tab*) under the week in which they are assigned.**

ASSESSMENTS~

- Assessments will be used throughout the curriculum content. Assessments include unit tests/quizzes and performance-based summative tasks.
 - Students will be given plenty of notice to facilitate proper preparation prior to an assessment. Class notes, handouts and lab experience act as the study guide for assessments.
 - **ANY communication** between students during an independent assessment will be considered cheating and earn the full consequences for academic dishonesty.
- **Assessment dates will be posted on the classroom homework board and in my Google classroom (weekly agenda posted in 'Stream' section).****

LABORATORY and ACTIVITIES~

Lab activities are one of the best ways for students to learn and comprehend Science content. Lab groups will be utilized and I expect my students to understand that this method of learning requires their utmost attention, consistent effort, and cooperation and is not a time for random socializing.

TARDIES~

***** During the first 2 weeks of school, tardies are excused to allow the students time to adjust to the new school and their new schedules. *****

- Students wait outside in an orderly fashion before the bell and I greet them as they enter the classroom. All students should be present and in their place by the time the bell rings, if not they are considered tardy.
 - unexcused **Tardy #1**→ verbal warning
 - unexcused **Tardy #2**→ 5 minute break detention & a planning discussion.
 - unexcused **Tardy #3**→ 10 minute break detention & a Behavior Notice.
 - unexcused **Tardy #4 & Beyond within a quarter**→ formal 30 minute detention slip(s) will be issued.

MAKE-UP DUE TO ABSENCE~

- The school district allows **two days' time for each day of absence** to complete make-up work.
- **Students absent only on quiz/assessment days will be expected to make up that assessment on the first day of their return. Students absent on only the due date of an assignment will be expected to turn in that work on the first day of their return.**
- It is the **STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY** to check their Google classroom board/website and to retrieve all homework/class work assignments to complete and return within the time frame listed above. ****Making up class work may well require checking in with me at the beginning of break to request paper assignments, check notes, and/or to arrange a time to make up missed labs.****

MISSED CLASS DUE TO A PLANNED SCHOOL EVENT~ (Not an absence!)

- At times students may need to miss a Science class due to a pre-planned event related to a school function or another class. When/If this occurs it is the student's responsibility to:
 - 1] Speak with me at least 1 day PRIOR to the event day.**
 - 2] Pick-up any needed work PRIOR to the event & complete it for submission on the regular due date.**
 - 3] Turn-in any work due on the event day to the front office PRIOR to class.**
- If work is asked for and/or received late, it will earn late credit.

EXTRA HELP~

- Please do not be afraid to ask for help if you are having problems with this subject. I want to see each student succeed and am willing to spend extra time to facilitate this goal. I am **available daily** for questions and/or assistance for students who come to my classroom **during BREAK**. **(Come at the beginning so we have time to work together.)**
- **After school** assistance time is also available and can be readily arranged, just come **speak with me first**.

CONDUCT~

- The science room is a classroom where learning takes place. In order for this to occur, complete student cooperation is needed. Science class is not a time to socialize, be disruptive or act in a silly manner. Lab time is a hands-on learning experience where students need to be safe, focused and actively thinking about what is happening and what they are doing.

RULES AND EXPECTATIONS:



Bobcats REP!

Resiliency, Empathy and Potential!

RESILIENCY:

- ~ Consistently work to demonstrate your personal best & ask for help when needed... don't quit!
- ~ Try to solve problems rather than create them. Accept responsibility for your choices and the consequences that follow.

EMPATHY:

- ~ Treat classmates, teachers and learning materials with care and consideration.
- ~ Think through how your actions will affect others as well as yourself...choose wisely & aim for the positive.

POTENTIAL:

- ~ Strive to be the best person you can be both as an academic student and socially.
- ~ Bring needed work materials and enter the classroom quietly and ready to learn each day.
- ~ Focus attention on the task at hand / use time wisely... look for ways to improve!

CONSEQUENCES~

Each behavior decision evokes a consequence, either positive or negative. Students' behavioral choices not only affect their citizenship marks but also influence the classroom environment as a whole. Poor behavior choices take away from class learning time and focus while prudent behavior choices foster increased learning opportunities, with more room for fun and creativity.

Negative Consequences

(behavior severity and/or frequency dictate response level)

- ~ Warning
- ~ Student/teacher behavior discussion
- ~ Incident Notice (emailed)
- ~ Detention (break/lunch/Wednesday after school)
- ~ Parent notification (email, phone call, etc.)
- ~ Office referral with parent contact
- ~ Loss of Lab Privileges
- ~ Zero on assignment/assessment (cheating)
- * Classroom learning & climate
negatively affected

Positive Consequences

- ~ Praise (verbal)
- ~ Pride in one's self
- ~ Sporadic rewards
- ~ 5 Star Points
- ~ Positive Behavior Notice
- ~ Bobcat of the Month
- ~ Special privileges
- ~ Improved grades
- * Classroom learning & climate
positively affected

*****The following poor behavior choices automatically earn a detention!... *****

1. Poor behavior choices with a substitute teacher
2. Academic Dishonesty
3. Choosing to be on any website other than the one assigned while using chromebooks/computers in class.

If there is a problem, personal or academic, that may affect your child's ability to learn in this class, it would be beneficial to make me aware of the situation as soon as possible. I can be reached via telephone at **(714) 986-7080 x24220** or by email at **ssweet@pylusd.org**.

I look forward to working together as a team with both students and families!

