

Welcome to 6th Grade Science

Tracy Oglesby

2026-2027

This year we will be exploring many exciting topics in our science class. Our curriculum focuses on topics from the St. Andrew's Science Department Key Objectives, which will include Scientific Inquiry, Biological Science, Chemical Concepts, and Earth and Space Science. We will learn about our ever changing world through current events, problem solving through investigation and research, and hands-on projects. I am looking forward to an exciting year!

Class Expectations

1. Come to class with your required materials
2. Line-up outside the door before entering the classroom
3. Begin on your Science Starter as soon as you enter the room
4. Keep our classroom and lab area clean
5. Be kind and respectful

Materials

Each day you will need the following materials:

- a charged Chromebook
- your science binder
- your science journal
- a pencil

Grading

- **Minor Grades (40%)** include, but are not limited to: Homework, Classwork, Science Starters, Vocabulary, Worksheets, Quizzes, and Current Events
- **Major Grades (60%)** include, but are not limited to: Tests, Projects, and Labs

Course Outline

1 st Quarter	Scientific Inquiry - Scientific Process - Scientific Writing and Presenting Biological Science - Characteristics and Classification of Living Things
2 nd Quarter	Biological Science - Cellular Structure and Function - Genetics - Ecology
3 rd Quarter	Chemical Concepts - Composition and Organization of Matter - Chemistry of Life - Chemical Bonding and Reactions - pH
4 th Quarter	Earth and Space - Earth as a System - The Universe - Exploring Space

Description of Assignments

Labs

The best part of science class is the hands-on activities and labs. While labs may be fun, safety is extremely important anytime we are working on a lab. Students will conduct some lab activities individually and others in small groups. Each student will be responsible for turning in his or her own work. Lab participation and safety will be recorded as a minor grade. All data sheets and lab reports that accompany a lab will be recorded as a major grade.

Homework

It is very important to review science notes and especially vocabulary every night. Sometimes we will have written homework assignments or projects to work on at home as well.

Science Starters

Students will begin each day with a Science Starter. This will be a question or writing assignment posted at the beginning of class that is related to our current unit of study. These science starters will be kept in their composition notebooks and checked biweekly for a minor grade.

Tests

A test will be given at the end of each unit. The test will be based on content given through notes, vocabulary, homework, and lab activities. The test will be composed of multiple-choice, matching, short-answer, and at least one discussion question. The students may also be asked to label diagrams. All tests will be recorded as a major grade.

Projects

Students can benefit greatly from projects such as building models, making posters, or creating presentations. Students also need to practice public speaking skills and will have to present their projects to the class. In this class, students will have at least one project assigned each quarter. Students will spend some time in class completing the project; however, parts may need to be completed at home. A rubric will be provided for each project which will be recorded as a major grade.

Current Events

Students will explore scientific news articles to help increase an understanding of both science concepts and writing skills. Each student will bring in one science article related to our current topic of study each quarter. Students will also read and analyze news articles provided in class. Current events will be recorded as a minor grade.

Contact Information

I am so excited to be a part of your child's learning experience this year and I am very interested in your student's progress! Please check MySA or gosaintsscience.org often for homework assignments, important dates for tests and projects, grades, or class updates. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me through email at oglesbytr@gosaints.org

The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.