

Tumwater Middle School
6th Grade Science Course Guide
Mr. Brimer 2018-19

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Welcome to Mr. Brimer's science class! This course will emphasize chemistry, physics and engineering. My goal is to not only help students become proficient with the science standards, but also to appreciate and develop a passion for science and experimentation.

School Supplies:

Required: 2+ pencils, a science notebook (spiral or composition notebook), pen, paper, and student planner or a calendar.

Beneficial: Colored pencils or markers, ruler, glue stick, student scissors, erasers, hand-held pencil sharpener, backpack, red pen, more pencils, and a calculator.

Class Rules:

We follow the POWER way at Tumwater Middle School. We also use the PBIS rewards and accountability system at TMS. Please be prepared, show respect to everyone, and try your best. Students will be taught how to behave correctly in class and follow science lab rules. If students are not behaving as expected, the following steps will be taken:

1. Reminder (We all need these at times).
2. Time out in hallway.
3. Fill out a behavior sheet and parent contact.
4. Student sent to the office with "minor incident" form.
5. Student sent to office for repeated minor incidents or a major incident (referral). Of course, behaviors such as fighting, bullying, and cheating would cause us to immediately use step 5.

Lab Safety:

Students are provided with a general overview of lab safety rules and procedures prior to starting any experiment. Student Safety Contracts will go home the day of presentation. Please complete the contracts and return promptly by the due date.

Classroom Policies:

All students are expected to turn in all work on time. If you don't take the time, you will owe the time during Opportunities. Students with a D or F grade in Science will be required to come to the lab for Opps. If there is an issue that keeps students from doing an assignment, please call, email, or bring a note. Work turned in on time earns an "A" toward the Work Completion grade. If you are absent, you need to check in with teachers during Opps or before school. Absent students have the same number of days absent to complete the assignment past the original due date.

6th grade Science Standards:

Next Generation Science Standards: www.nextgenscience.org

Chemistry: Matter and Its Interactions - ACS Middle School Chemistry Program

Physics: Energy, Forces, and Motion - Full Options Science System (FOSS) Engineering and

Modeling: Multiview Sketches, Computer Aided Design, and Model Construction - Project Lead the Way

Grading Criteria:

- Students will receive two grades: Academic and Work Completion.
 - The Academic grade is tracked throughout the semester in Skyward.
 - The Work Completion grade is calculated at the end of the semester and posted in Skyward for report cards.
- The primary purpose of grading student work is to communicate proficiency status on student learning. The secondary purposes include: providing information that students can use to encourage self-evaluation and growth, identifying if students need available education interventions, and evaluating the effectiveness of the curriculum, instruction, and assessments.
- Grades are weighted into two categories.
 - Classwork and Participation: **10%** of the total academic grade.
 - Assessments and Projects: **90%** of the total academic grade.
- Classwork and projects may be revised or redone within four weeks of the initial assignment date to improve student scores. Students may complete this work at home or during Opps. The work must be turned in during Opps. Communicate with me directly as this need arises.
- There will be several types of assessments.
 - Quizzes: These will occur throughout the units and count for 90% of the overall grade.
 - Tests: These will be at the end of each unit and count for 90% of the overall grade.
 - Projects: These will be broken down into multiple steps for students to complete and count for 90% of the overall grade.
 - Quiz and Test Retakes: Students may retake any quiz or test one time within four weeks of the original date to improve scores. Students **MUST** have no missing assignments prior to the retake. The highest score of the two assessments will be used as the final grade for the quiz or test.
 - Project Revisions: Students may revise or redo any project within four weeks of the initial project date to improve scores. Students may complete this work at home or during Opps. Communicate with me directly as this need arises.
- Lab experiments cannot be made up, revised, or redone. This is due to the high level of materials and supply organization and program pacing required. Students who miss a lab for any reason will be excused from that lab with no impact to their grade. Labs are in the regular classwork category.

Communication:

Email and Phone - Please contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns. My turnaround time is usually within one or two days.

Skyward - Please sign up for Skyward access in the TMS office as soon as possible. Skyward provides many features and functions for remaining connected to your child's education at TMS. The program can be accessed from most devices.

Remind - Please sign up for Remind by texting @4a4gbh to 81010. You will receive daily text alerts about our class.

Google Classroom - Please download Google Chrome as a browser. Then students use their school login ID and password to access their Google account remotely from anywhere. Chrome can be downloaded to just about any device. Google Classroom is my primary instructional communication tool.

