

Green Brook Middle School

8th Grade Science

Kevin Smith

Course Description:

The 8th grade science curriculum begins in chemistry, building upon the foundations began in 7th grade science. Students will begin with the smallest unit of matter known as the atom; learning its makeup, interactions, how it relates to the Periodic Table of Elements, chemical reactions, and the law of conservation of mass. The remainder of the year provides students with a basis in life science preparing them for high school biology, beginning with the smallest form of life we know, the cell, and branching out into genetics, heredity, natural selection, and reproduction. The 8th grade curriculum is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards adopted by the State of New Jersey.

Course Expectations:

By the time students arrive at 8th grade science, they are expected to take greater responsibility in their own learning and behavior. In order to be successful, students should do the following:

- 1) Take pride in the assignments and assessments submitted.
- 2) Respect teacher(s) and fellow students.
- 3) Come prepared to learn and participate.
- 4) Take ownership of their own learning.
- 5) Set goals for future success.

Contact Information:

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Grading Plan:

The marking period grade will be determined using a point system. Each assignment and assessment will have a point value. All points will be added up at the end of the marking period. The percentage of points earned will determine the letter grade.

Typical point values are as follows:

Classwork: 10 points

Labs/Research Activities: 25 points

Tests: 100 points

Performance Assessments: 100-125 points

