

8-Arctic Science: Policies and Expectations

Directions: Please review the following expectations with a parent or guardian. Both you and your parent/guardian will sign the slip indicating that you understand what will be expected of you this year in science. Please let me know (akelley1@dcsdk12.org) if you have any questions or concerns before moving forward.

SAFETY AND MATERIALS

- Safety comes FIRST
 - I expect that you follow all safety rules at all times
- You will be expected to complete a safety quiz at the beginning of the year, this will be kept in your file as an understanding of all safety expectations... if you do not understand a safety rule or expectation, please make sure to ask questions BEFORE moving forward
- We will be using a variety of materials in class... everything from standard school supplies to potentially hazardous substances
 - I expect you to ALWAYS use classroom materials for their intended purpose and to follow ALL material safety expectations
- We will frequently use computers in class
 - I expect that you treat the school computers with great care
 - You will be held responsible for the computer that you are using each day in class
 - Any damage or inappropriate use will be reported to administration and access to technology may be revoked
 - Computers should ONLY be used for classroom approved activities

CLASS WORK

- Much of what we do in science requires you to be ACTIVELY ENGAGED in class
 - If you are not on task and engaged in class, it may be difficult for you to complete your work at home
- I will always make a reasonable effort to give you sufficient time for your work in class, therefore:
 - I expect that you are working on the assigned classwork WHILE IN CLASS and that you are USING YOUR TIME WISELY

COLLABORATION

- Group work is regular and often
- Groups will change regularly
 - Sometimes I will choose your groups and sometimes you will choose your own groups
- I always expect that you are kind to and respectful of your group members
- I always expect that you contribute to your group

HOMEWORK

- Homework will accomplish the following:
 - Prepare you for the next day's lesson
 - Reinforce what we have done in class
 - Allow you time to complete graded work and larger projects
- It is important that you stay caught up with homework
- It is difficult to complete late work while staying caught up in class
- **DON'T LET YOUR WORK PILE UP!**
- Once we have completed a unit, late work will **NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED**
 - All missing work will be changed to a ZERO in IC
 - It is difficult to focus on past content while we are learning new content
 - Similar to high school expectations (some teachers do not accept late work at all!)
- Per team and school policy, any late work will be given:
 - Full content credit
 - Lower work habit credit
 - Full work habit credit if due to an excused absence (two make-up days per absence)

GRADING

- Work habits
 - You will be given a work habits rubric to place in your notebook for reference, but essentially your work habits grade will reflect:
 - Turning in assignments on time
 - Completing assignments
 - Classroom participation
 - This grade will be based on daily work and in class behavior
- Content knowledge
 - In science, we will assess for different areas of content knowledge:
 - Knowing and Understanding → do you know your facts?
 - Inquiring and Designing → can you ask questions and find answers?
 - Processing and Evaluating → can you interpret data?
 - Reflecting on the Impacts of Science → can you make and communicate supported opinions?
 - This grade will be based on projects, labs, and assessments (tests/quizzes)
- Improvements
 - There will be opportunities to make improvements to projects, labs, and assessments
- Extra Credit
 - On occasion, there will be opportunities for extra credit in **WORK HABITS ONLY**
- Final Grades
 - Final grades will be posted at the end of each quarter
 - An email will be sent home two weeks before the end of the quarter if you have a D, I, or U in any of your core classes
 - On occasion, grades may be raised based on work habits (A) or recent performance

WEBSITE AND GOOGLE CLASSROOM

- Google Classroom will be **ESSENTIAL** to your success in class this year!
 - I will post a daily summary, including links to any resources and homework assignments, of what we have done in class
 - Use this daily post to stay caught up if you are absent
 - Use this daily post to remind yourself of homework and due dates
 - Some assignments will be posted and collected through Google Classroom (check each daily post for specific instructions)
- Our Arctic-Science homepage (through RVMS website) will contain some basic, year long information
 - 8-Arctic Homework Calendar
 - See your core class assignments in one place
 - General links and resources that may be helpful throughout the year

SNACKS

- Snacks will be allowed as needed - **PLEASE REMEMBER... NO PEANUT OR TREE NUT PRODUCTS!!**
- It is expected that you clean up after yourself
 - Classes may lose snack privileges if trash and messes are left behind
- WATER ONLY (allowed all day)
- No snack sharing allowed - ALLERGIES!
- Gum is allowed but should not be seen or heard

RESTROOMS

- It is expected that you use your passing period wisely and use that time for the restroom so you have minimal disruption to class time
- If you do happen to need the restroom during class:
 - You will be given NINE passes for the quarter (that averages to about one a week)
 - If you do not have a pass, you will not be allowed to leave and should make plans accordingly for passing period
 - You will need to wait until an appropriate time during class (not during instructions)
- If at any time, it is determined that you are misusing your time in the restroom, you will no longer be able to leave class and will need to make plans accordingly during passing period

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- Be respectful of others
 - Teachers AND peers!
 - No talking while others “have the floor”
 - Reasonable noise level during activities
- Be respectful of your environment
- Cell phones AND smart watches should be put away AT ALL TIMES - NO EXCEPTIONS
- NO headphones or earbuds out unless instructed by your teacher
- Dress appropriately for school (dress code is in your planner)
- Follow ALL instructions and ask questions if you don't understand

IF EXPECTATIONS ARE NOT MET

- FIRST occurrence
 - Warning
- SECOND occurrence
 - Lunch detention, conversation with teacher, student completes reflection sheet, teacher contacts home
- THIRD occurrence
 - Lunch detention, conversation with teacher, student and teacher contact home, student completes reflection sheet
- FOURTH occurrence
 - Office referral

Again, if you have any questions or concerns about any of these policies, please do not hesitate to ask. It is better that you ask and understand ahead of time instead of waiting for an issue to arise. You are welcome to talk to me during work time in class or Enrichment. Email (akelley1@dcsdk12.org) is also a great way to communicate if we don't have time during classes. I generally will respond to emails within one school day.

**In an effort to reduce paper... these policies will NOT be handed out in class. They will be posted on Google Classroom, our Arctic-Science website, and will be emailed through IC. If you would prefer a paper copy, please let me know and I will make sure to get one for you!