8TH GRADE SCIENCE WITH MRS. YOUNG
COURSE SYLLABUS

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The following is everything you need to know about Mrs. Young's science class. All guidelines, policies, and procedures have been put in place to ensure the best learning environment possible is created. It is my expectation that information covered in this document is followed by all students at all times even if Mrs. Young is not present.

Course Description

8th Grade science connects students with a broader understanding of our world. Students are engaged in hands-on, minds-on activities to not only learn new material but develop their skills as both critical thinkers and problem solvers. Content for this course will include laboratory investigations, class lecture/discussion, reading and writing assignments, as well as projects.

Supplies Needed

- Place to organize papers
- Pencils
- Highlighter
- Colored pencils or markers

Behavior Expectations

In addition to the school rules I expect all my students to follow the guidelines listed below. By following the given guidelines one stays in Mrs. Young's Circle of Trust.

- I will treat you with respect so that you know how to treat me and others.
- Feel free to do anything that doesn't cause a problem for someone else.
- If you cause a problem, I will ask you to solve it.
- If you can't solve a problem or choose not to, I will do something.
- What I do will depend on each person and the situation.
- If you feel something is unfair, you can whisper to me "I'm not sure that's fair" and we can talk.

Classroom Policies

Grades/Grading:

Your overall **science grade** will be based on the following: End of unit wrap-ups, in-class assignments, and projects.

Please note: I **DO NOT** round grades. This means that if you earn an 89.9%, a B+, I do not round up to a 90%, A-. I **DO NOT** offer extra credit assignments as a way to bring up your grade at the end of the trimester.

Late work: Assignments are expected to be turned in on the date they are due (with the exception of absences). In the event that a due date is missed, late work may still be accepted (at teacher's discretion). There is typically one late work deadline given after each unit. Once a late work deadline has passed, any work missed prior to that deadline will not be accepted. On occasion, there will be some assignments that will not be accepted late. Assignments that will not be accepted late will be communicated to students well in advance prior to their due date.

Absent work: School policy states that students have two(2) days per day missed to make up all missed work. For example, if you are out sick for three days, you have six days from the day you return to school to finish any work missed. End of Unit Wrap-ups (SMWYL) need to be made up within one week of returning to school. After one week, a score of "0" will be given. ***This is your responsibility to remember to make up missing assignments.*** If an assignment was given prior to a student's absence then that assignment is due the day the student returns to class, otherwise it is considered late.

Practice (AKA: Homework): When assigned, practice is **DUE** at the **BEGINNING** of class. A student is not permitted to work on practice when they come to class, even if the tardy bell has not yet rung.

Retakes: When it comes to retaking an assessment retakes are only allowed on for Critical Junctures. Retakes are unavailable for End of Unit Wrap ups. Should a student wish to retake a Critical Juncture, the student will need to come in during lunch on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Redos for assignments: Redos on an assignment will be at the discretion of the teacher and will be determined on a case by case basis.

Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is a very serious issue. It's important for all students to have ownership for their work and not someone else's. Should an incident of academic dishonesty occur an automatic referral will be issued. In addition to the referral a student may be issued a zero or asked to redo the assignment.

SOME EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

- Copying from another student's work at any time – in class or anywhere else, including home.
- Copying a paper or other work from the internet or other source.
- Working in a group on an assignment that was assigned as individual work.
- Changing an answer after a paper/exam/quiz was graded.
- Using a "cheat sheet" during a quiz or test

Plagiarism – a piece of written work or an idea that somebody has copied and claimed as his or her own. *Simply changing a word or two from the original work is still plagiarism – all ideas must be cited using a bibliography or parenthetical citation.*

Labs/Hands-on Activities:
Labs and hands-on activities are a privilege. Students will sit out of labs if behavior expectations are not met. Below are some guidelines that must be followed during lab days.

SAFETY IS FIRST. It is VITAL all instructions are followed as written in the lab procedures. Any unauthorized lab activity will not be permitted. This is **NON-NEGOTIABLE**.

- Follow all written & verbal instructions carefully.
- Horseplay, pranks, or practical jokes will not be tolerated.
- Do not touch any science equipment, supplies or other materials without permission.
- Clean all work areas when finished with a lab.
- Report any accidents immediately.
- Do not remove chemicals, equipment, or supplies from the classroom.
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Classroom Procedures

Entering the classroom: Upon entering the classroom sit in your assigned seat, take out your workbook and begin working on the instructions posted on the board. If a student is not in their seat and actively working when the bell rings they will be marked tardy.

Obtaining absent or make-up work: There are three (3) ways to obtain missed work BEFORE ASKING THE TEACHER:

1. Going online to my website and looking at the daily calendar.
2. Go to Google Classroom to see if an assignment is posted.
3. Ask a friend.

Food and Drink: You are permitted to have a water bottle containing only water during class. Food is not permitted.

Sharpening Pencils/Getting Drinks/Throwing Away Trash: There are no set times for performing these activities but please use COMMON SENSE. When needing to do one of these tasks please do so quickly and quietly. When throwing away trash please place the item in the bin. DO NOT TREAT THE TRASH CAN LIKE A BASKETBALL HOOP. My classroom is not Chase Arena and you do not play for the Warriors.

Using the Restroom: Students are expected to use the restroom during passing periods and at lunch. Should a student need to use the restroom during class time please sign your name on the whiteboard near the door and take the restroom pass hanging on the wall. Upon returning to the classroom erase your name from the board and return the pass to its hook on the wall. Only one student is allowed out at a time. Failure to follow procedure will result in restroom privileges being revoked.

Office Hours: If you find yourself needing additional help or support I am available by appointment before and after school or during lunch. Feel free to email me or talk to me directly to set up a time to meet.

End of Class: When the class period is coming to an end I will give you the signal to begin cleaning up. To be courteous to the next class please straighten up your area by throwing away any trash, putting away materials, and/or wiping up any messes. Once you have packed up your belongings and the area around you is clean, have a seat and wait to be excused. Under no circumstances are you to get up and crowd the door. **I will dismiss you** not the bell.

Guest Teachers: When there is a substitute all classroom policies and procedures are still in place and are expected to be followed. If your name shows up on a sub report for anything negative you will receive a referral. **No arguing, No exceptions**

******Please sign & return the following page ******

Parent and Student Acknowledgement Form

Student Name (please print) _____ Period _____

We have read this class syllabus for Mrs. Young's Science class.

_____ _____ _____ _____
Signature of Parent or Guardian Date Signature of Student Date

Parent/Guardian & Student Initials:

____ ____ **We have reviewed & discussed the expectations & policies for the classroom & labs.**

____ ____ **We understand each of the safety expectations.**

____ ____ **We understand that off-task behavior during labs may result in removal from future labs, and possible office referral.**

____ ____ **We have reviewed & discussed what academic dishonesty is and have reviewed the examples.**