

Maywood Middle School
• Earth and Space Sciences Syllabus•
2018-2019

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Course Description

Earth and Space Sciences has three major units (see below course content) that correlate with the Next Generation Science Standards. This curriculum is laboratory based science, with additional focus placed on laboratory safety, scientific process, critical thinking, and written communication of investigative findings. Technology use is an integral component of the curriculum.

Overall Course Objectives

1. Students will understand and use scientific concepts and principles.
2. Students will conduct scientific investigations to expand understanding of the natural world.
3. Students will apply science knowledge and skills to solve problems and meet challenges.
4. Students will use effective communication skills and tools to build and demonstrate their understanding of science.
5. Students will understand how science knowledge and skills connect to other subject areas and real life situations.
6. Students will apply science knowledge to new and challenging scenarios.

Course Content

Earth's Dynamic Systems

- Convection Currents
- Earthquakes
- Energy Transfer
- Energy Cycling
- Evidence of Dynamic Earth
- Fossils and Geological Processes
- Plate tectonics
- Resource Distribution
- Volcanoes
- Viscosity
- Land formations
- Rock cycle

Weather and Climate Systems

- Air Masses & Pressure
- Climate
- Cloud Formation
- Convection Currents
- Energy Transfer
- Heating of Earth's Surface
- Ocean Currents
- Storms
- Weather
- Wind

Space Explorations

- Eclipse (Lunar and Solar)
- Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Gravity
- Jupiter & Moons
- Lunar Phases
- Reasons for Seasons
- Rotation vs. Revolution
- Solar System
- Stars
- Sun-Earth-Moon System
- Study of the Universe
- Tides

Year Round Content:

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical thinking and Reasoning • Effective Communication skills (focus on writing) • Systems & Interactions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry (experimental design) • Application (use of knowledge) • Lab Skills and Safety • Scientific Method |
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Major Learning Activities and Assessment Tools

Varieties of assessments are used to determine student ability to apply and understand the concepts and principles presented throughout this course. Below are examples of the type of assessments that may be used:

Assessment Tools

- Lesson exercises, in-class activities/discussions, and homework.
- On-line assignments accessible through *Student Access*.
- Computer use and application
- Research
- Unit projects

Assessment Tools

- Creating, maintaining, and updating personal Science journal (daily activity)
- Writing and conducting laboratory investigations including outcome analysis
- Tests and quizzes
- Oral presentations
- Construction of physical models

Textbook and Materials

All students have lockers – for student safety only the items listed below will be permitted in the science laboratory (classroom).

Please bring the following to class daily:

- One (1) Student Composition notebook (no spiral bound books) and 1" binder
- Pencil, blue or black pen, eraser, highlighter and red correcting pen/pencil
- Ruler, colored pencils
- Any additional materials as requested
- USB flash drive

Student Behavior Expectations

1. Come in quietly.
2. Be in your assigned seat with the beginning activity started, homework and needed materials out **before the bell rings**.
3. Talking should stop *immediately* with opening bell & when the teacher signals for attention.
4. When the teacher is talking to the class, it is expected that:
 - Students are listening with no talking or whispering.
 - Students will raise their hand when they have comments or questions, and wait to be acknowledged, before speaking.
5. During work time students should stay in their seats - do not wander around the room.
6. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.
7. Students are expected to be in their seats and working until dismissed by the teacher.
8. Take care of your restroom needs before class!
9. Do not handle computers, displays, equipment, or materials unless you have prior permission.
10. No food, beverages, or gum in classroom.
11. Clothing must meet Maywood's Code of Conduct standards **and** be appropriate for laboratory activities.

Student Attendance Expectations

Students are responsible for completing all missed assignments during their personal or school related absence(s). Assignments due on the day of a school related absence must be turned in before attending the event. Students need to check the Connects web site for assignments and materials during their absence. If students are unable to print documents from Connects they may pick up needed documents *the day they return, and complete assignments according to the Maywood guidelines printed in the Student Planner*. If there is a question about an assignment please email or call my voice mail (see first page). Long term assignments (seven (7) days or longer) that were due during an absence must be turned in on the first day back at school.

Substitutes

Occasionally I may be absent due to conferences, district meetings, or illness. Students are expected to treat substitutes with extreme respect and courtesy.

Assignments

All assignments are to be completed on time as announced or posted and turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. Work turned in after class has begun is deemed late. *Reflection* assignments are not accepted late, as we discuss the prompts on the due date. Unexcused late work maybe accepted with a 40% penalty. No late work will be accepted after the unit test. Due to time and material constraints, late work poses a significant problem, in science class. We recognize that situations arise that can affect students study time, however, if such situation should arise please notify the teacher via note or email so that special arrangements can be made. No late work is accepted after a Unit test. During the first trimester one (1) extra credit opportunities will be offered. There is no extra credit during the 2nd & 3rd trimesters. There are not test retakes.

Grades and Grade Reports

Grades are based on the percent of points earned each trimester. Graded assignments and grading scale are as follows:

- Assessments, Labs, and Projects = 100%

* Cheating/plagiarism on any assignment (including HW) will result in zero credit & demerits for all students involved.

Students and parents need regular communication to help ensure academic success. Skyward Family Access® is an Internet accessible program that allows students and parents to monitor academic progress. When reviewing student grades please note due dates and any comments posted. The program updates immediately, which means that assignments are posted prior to the completion of grading. In addition to Family Access, students will receive a mid-term report card.

Issaquah School District Laboratory Safety Rules on reverse side.

ISD Safety Rules in the Science Classroom

1. Learn the locations of safety equipment, eyewash station, and fire extinguishing devices, and how to use them.
2. Wear eye protection devices when observing or performing certain functions in connection with laboratory activities.
3. **Flood with water immediately** if any chemical is spilled or splashed on your skin or in your eyes.
4. Notify your instructor of all accidents or potentially hazardous situations, no matter how minor.
5. Keep the work space and apparatus at your station clean and in good order.
6. Never mix or heat chemicals unless directed to do so.
7. Know what you are doing. Be wary of what neighboring students are doing.
8. Throw all solids and paper to be discarded into appropriate waste containers. Never discard matches, filter paper, paper towels, or other solids in the sink.
9. Read an assigned investigation carefully before beginning. Note and comply with every caution listed in the experiment. Follow closely, but not blindly, all oral and written directions.
10. Read the label carefully before taking anything from a bottle or container. Using the wrong material could result in an injury.
11. Do not carry side shelf bottles to your desk or work area.
12. Do not concentrate heat in just one spot on the test tube, and never point the open end of the test tube at anyone. Never look down a test tube.
13. Never pour water into concentrated acid when mixing acids and water. Always pour a concentrated acid into water slowly and stir constantly.
14. Don't smell a liquid directly when observing an odor. Use your hand to fan the odor toward you.
15. Regard all chemicals as hazardous unless your instructor informs you otherwise.
16. Allow sufficient time for materials to cool, as many materials are not observably hot.
17. Work deliberately and with definite purpose, but do not hurry.
18. Do not remove any chemicals or lab equipment from science labs – there will be no tolerance for violation of this rule.
19. Removal or deliberate misuse of chemicals or equipment will result in the student's removal from the classroom and perhaps more severe discipline.
20. Be sure that gas and water lines at your station are shut tightly and that all equipment and supplies are in their proper places before leaving the lab.
21. When inserting glass tubing or thermometers into stoppers, use a towel, grasping the tubing close to the stopper, which has been moistened with water or a lubricant.
22. Ask your instructor for help if you do not understand how or why to do a task.
23. Be aware that synthetic clothing and hair spray are highly flammable materials.
24. When conducting laboratory investigations that include the use of chemicals, Bunsen Burners, or rapidly moving objects, all students will wear protective eye goggles.
25. Wear appropriate clothing. No open toe shoes, angel sleeves, loose sleeves or tops. Long hair must be tied back.

I have read, understand, and will follow the course syllabus and the above science safety rules and laboratory regulations. I acknowledge that the below checked items have been explained.

- Non-compliance with any of the above regulations will result in disciplinary action that may include suspension or expulsion from school.
- Location and use of fire extinguisher.
- Location and use of wash devices.
- Emergency evacuation procedures

Name of Student

Period/Teacher

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent

Date