**Clark County R-1 Middle School**

 **Clark County R-1 Mission Statements:**

1. To guarantee all school age members an environment conductive to learning the academic, social, and cultural skills and knowledge necessary for each individual to achieve their fullest desired potential in a challenging society.
2. To facilitate opportunities for all members to improve themselves culturally, socially, and economically.

**Course: 8th Grade Science (Physical, Life & Earth Science) 2012/13**

**Course Description**: In eighth grade science students will study four basic units; Chemical Interactions, Cells and Heredity, Human Biology and Health, Earth's Inside Components. Upon successful completion of this course, students will obtain a deeper understanding of the above topics and be able to apply learned concepts to their lives outside our classroom.

**Course Texts (4 books)**: Prentice Hall, Science Explorer Series (2005)

 Chemical Interactions, Cells and Heredity, Human Biology and Health (student copies available)

 Holt Science Series (2005); Inside the Restless Earth (classroom copies only)

**Instructor: Mrs. Oilar E-mail Address: moilar@clarkcounty.k12.mo.us**

 **Website:** [**EkleOnLine.com**](http://EkleOnLine.weebly.com)

**Course Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the properties and principals of matter, and relate these theories to surroundings.
2. Explain why the cell is the fundamental base of life, as it strives to maintain homeostasis.
3. Assess how multi-cellular organisms have systems that interact to carry out life processes through their physical and chemical means.
4. Follow the genetic transfer of biological characteristics from one generation to the next through reproductive processes, and identify these characteristics within species.
5. Explain the characteristic properties of the Earth's crust and how this creates internal processes and energy sources within the
6. Describe the rock cycle, its processes and how it reveals evidence of the changes in Earth over time.
7. Formulate testable questions and hypotheses, while designing and evaluating the experimental processes that are the basis for scientific investigation.

**Grading Policy**: The A-F Grading scale, as observed in the Student Handbook, will be used. Grades will be determined on a point system, from which approximately 70% of your grade will be from section notes, lab work, homework and classroom assignments, and approximately 30% from tests. Extra credit is available after nearly every test, and due on the day specified by the instructor.

**Supplies**: **Separate spiral notebook AND folder for *SCIENCE ONLY***, pens or pencils, red pen, and assigned text. Text books WILL NOT be used as place to keep excess papers, and you are required to take notes. Expect to provide your own supplies, and bring them to class daily.
 (A simple calculator will also be used periodically).

**Homework Expectations:**

* Assignments due at the **START** of the next class period, unless otherwise noted by the instructor. A number of assignments will also be completed in class.
* Assignments for missing work can be found in a file in the classroom. Extra worksheets and handouts are also located in this file.
* **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE for picking up their own lost/missed assignments and/or worksheets, in the above location. Labs must be made up on the day scheduled.**
* If absent on a day when an advance assignment is due, upon returning to school that assignment is due the first day back. On the first day back at school after an absence, students are responsible for obtaining all their assignments, notes, handouts &/or worksheets.
* Students, who are absent, must turn in make-up homework the next class day following their return. Make-up work is only allowed for excused absences.
* Tests missed due to an absence, must be taken within 5 week days, as arranged with the instructor on the first day back in class. You will have only **ONE** arranged opportunity to make up a missed test.
* **Late Assignments** ARE NOT ACCEPTED for full credit. As stated above, assignments are due at the START of the next class period, unless otherwise noted.
* **EkleOnLine:** Assignments, classroom activities, review ideas, links to great science on-line, and places to go for more information on what is discussed in class can be found here.

**Classroom Expectations**: Students are expected to arrive on time, with supplies and be prepared to begin classroom activities. Students must demonstrate a constant respect for others, their personal and communal properties, and contribute to maintain a quiet and calm classroom atmosphere.

**Consequences for Disruptive Behavior**: Offences are weighted on a ‘per week’ basis. An initial verbal warning will be given. If this proves insufficient, the student will receive 30 minutes to 60 minutes of detention with the instructor, at the time specified. The principal and parents will be contacted. Additional assignments or tasks may be required with detention. Continued disruptive behavior will result in the removal of the student and a zero on any assignments for the day.

**Classroom Rules**:

1. Permanent markers are not allowed and will be taken, possibly without warning and not returned.
2. Writing on school property is not accepted. You will serve a detention with me, possibly without warning, and be expected to clean classroom desks.
3. You will be marked tardy when you arrive after the bell rings, unless you have prior permission. Prior permission might not be granted.

**Contact Information**: My plan period is 5th hour. You may also leave a message for me at middle school office/660-727-3319, high school office/660-727-2205, or by e-mail.

Personal Statement & Signature:

I have read this syllabus and understand all parts of the course requirements for 8th Grade Science.

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Sign & remove the bottom.*** *Return signature portion ONLY, within four days, of the first day of school. 3 points*