

“Science is a way of thinking.” ~ Carl Sagan

# 7th Grade Science

Mrs. Gamble

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<http://www.cbsd.org//Domain/1656>

## Course Description:

This year in 7<sup>th</sup> grade science, you will be introduced to the biological and physical sciences. The curriculum emphasizes the thinking skills involved in the scientific method of data collection, analyzing, and problem solving. Our studies will develop your Science inquiry skills and incorporate technology into your learning.

There are 4 separate units (approximately 1 per marking period) that we will cover this year.



1. Ecology
2. Cell & Heredity
3. Matter
4. Energy



September	October	November	December	January
<p><b><u>Ecology Unit</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy and Matter Flow</li> <li>• Cycles in Nature</li> <li>• Ecosystem Change over Time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant and Animal Adaptations to Environment</li> <li>• <i>Ecology Performance Assessment</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>District Ecology Assessment</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Cells &amp; Heredity Unit</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Characteristics of Cells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structures &amp; Functions within cells</li> <li>• Cell Cycle &amp; Cell Reproduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traits &amp; Heredity</li> <li>• <i>District Cells &amp; Heredity Assessment</i></li> </ul>
February	March	April	May	June
<p><b><u>Matter Unit</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metric System and Measurement</li> <li>• Physical &amp; Chemical Properties of Matter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Matter Performance Assessment</i></li> <li>• States of Matter &amp; Changes</li> <li>• Atoms, Elements, Compounds &amp; Mixtures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish Matter Unit</li> <li>• <i>District Matter Assessment</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Energy Unit</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Forms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Conversions</li> <li>• Conservation of Energy</li> <li>• <i>Energy Performance Assessment</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewable &amp; Non-Renewable Resources</li> <li>• Temperature and Heat</li> <li>• <i>District Energy Assessment</i></li> </ul>

## Textbooks:

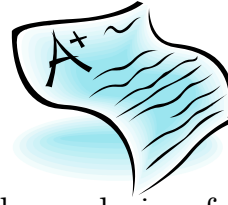
We will be using a different Science textbook for each unit. Each textbook is available to download online (to a PC, Mac, or mobile device) and we will have a printed set of these online textbooks in the classroom. As an additional resource, we will also have a classroom set of traditional textbooks. You may sign these textbooks out with Mrs. Gamble to take home.



## Grading

You will be graded & awarded points in the Formative and Summative Assessments categories on:

- Classwork & Homework (Formative)
- Graded Assignments (Summative)
- Lab Reports (Summative)
- Digital Media Projects (Summative)
- Tests/Quizzes (Summative)
- District Unit Tests & Performance Assessments
  - This year in science, you have a district-based test at the conclusion of each of our four units. These district tests will count towards your marking period grade. You will also have three district based performance assessments (in-class labs performed individually) that will count towards your final grade in Science for the year.
    - *As per district policy, District Unit Tests may not be re-taken for Second Chance Learning. However, the District Performance Assessments may be retaken.*
- **PLEASE NOTE: Extra Credit will NOT be provided on an individual basis. IF, extra credit is provided, it will be on a class wide basis at Mrs. Gamble's discretion.**



*Although there is no finite grade for classroom participation it is essential to your learning. You need to be an active learner in the classroom and one way to do this is to participate in classroom discussions. Asking questions when confused and answering questions when you understand are both equally important parts of learning.*

## Classroom Expectations:

My goal for each of you is to have a very exciting and successful year in science, as well as a smooth transition year to middle school. You can do your part by following the expectations I have for you and the class.

### Respect:

- ❖ Follow all teacher directions the first time they are given
- ❖ Listen to others when they are speaking
- ❖ Respect each other as well as all science equipment & materials



### Responsibility:

- ❖ Interact appropriately with peers
- ❖ Come to class prepared with all necessary materials
- ❖ Stay on task with the class lesson



### Achievement:

- ❖ Complete the Science Starter at the beginning of class
- ❖ Successfully achieve the goals of each day's lesson
- ❖ Complete each assignment & assessment to the best of your ability

## Mrs. G's Keys to Your Success:



- ✓ Observe & Inquire about the science all around you!!
- ✓ Be prepared for class each day...**STAY ORGANIZED**
- ✓ Be an active learner in the classroom...**PARTICIPATE**
- ✓ Seek help or resources when necessary
- ✓ Challenge yourself
- ✓ **HAVE FUN!! ☺**



**I look forward to spending this year with you & discovering the world of science together!!**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_