

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

## Class Expectations

- Be kind and be respectful
- Be on time and prepared to learn
- Raise your hand and wait to be called on
- Listen to others when they are speaking
- Follow directions the first time they are given
- Be open to learning by participating and asking questions
- Give your best and work hard
- Have a positive attitude and strive to have a productive, thought-provoking year



## Course Description

7<sup>th</sup> grade science addresses topics in life, physical, and environmental science. The four units of study are matter, energy, cells and heredity, and ecology. The course digs deeper into topics introduced at the elementary level. Some of the course level essential questions are:

- How can one explain the structure, properties, and interactions of **matter**?
- What is energy? What are the different forms of **energy**?
- How are the structure and function of **cells** related within an organism?
- How does energy and matter flow through **ecosystems**?

## Student Expectations

Meeting classroom expectations and behaving appropriately in class helps create a learning environment where you and your classmates feel welcome, safe, and respected. I expect all students to demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers, and the materials we use in the classroom.

Science is an ever-evolving field, and I encourage all students to ask questions, share ideas, and support their classmates as they do the same. Remember, we are all learning together and trying to question, discuss, and piece together evidence to draw conclusions throughout the year to further our understanding of science.

## What You Need

- Writing utensils (pens or pencils)
- A section of your binder dedicated to science
- **A 3 hole punched notebook with an envelope glued to the inside cover**
- A box of colored pencils that will be kept in the classroom for you to use
- A voice! Don't be afraid to ask questions - we are learning together!
- A positive attitude, an open mind, and willingness to try!



## Gresko Cash Passes & Raffle Tickets

Throughout the year, you will be paid for doing your job. Your job is to be focused, be on task, complete your work, and etc. With your cash passes, you can buy things such as glitter pound (\$10), switching your seat for a day (\$20), listening to music for a class period (\$30), a homework pass (\$35), a bonus point (\$50), etc. You will also earn points on a scoreboard against the teacher as a class for doing your job. If at the end of the week your class score is higher than the teachers, you will each earn a raffle ticket to be entered to win a prize.

### Grading System

- Your grade will be based on homework, quizzes, classwork, notebook checks, metacognitive reflections, “I wonder” questions, labs, projects, chapter tests, performance assessments, unit tests, essays, etc. given throughout the year.
- Your grade will be weighed according to the following: 20% formative (homework, classwork, etc.) and 80% summative (projects, chapter tests, etc.).
- Tests and quizzes will be structured according to the objectives of the curriculum. You will receive a study guide one week in advance for all tests.
- Work turned in late will result in point deduction.
- Learning to proficiency is a strategy which provides additional opportunities for students to demonstrate what they know when assessments indicate that the essential knowledge or skills have not been demonstrated for summative assignments that score below 70%. Failure to prepare for an assignment does not qualify learning to proficiency.
- There are 4 district unit exams that will be completed after each unit. There are 3 core performance assessments as well.



### Class Policies and Procedures

**Entering Class:** Gather any necessary materials, quickly find your seat, record your homework into your assignment book, and begin working on the warm-up posted on the board. We will go over the daily agenda and learning targets shortly after.

**Homework:** Homework is given to develop important skills. You will be informed of homework at the beginning of class each day. It is your responsibility to record homework in your assignment book. Homework is a completion grade only and checked the day it is due (most often the next day). Homework assignments are reviewed in class, and therefore may not be made up. If you choose not to complete the homework, you are missing out on the opportunity to learn and grow.

**Bathroom Usage:** You must ask to use the restroom and get your assignment book signed. Furthermore, you must sign out with your name, date, and time before leaving the classroom.

**Food and Electronic Devices:** Food and drink are not permitted outside of the cafeteria for sanitary reasons. Electronics may only be used when instructed by the teacher.

**Exiting Class:** In the last few minutes of class, you will wrap up what you are working on, return materials to the appropriate locations, and complete an exit ticket which will be handed in on your way out the door. The teacher, not the bell, dismisses you upon completion of these tasks.

**Absences:** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up missed assignments. See the “While You Were Out” binder for missed work. For assignments missed due to an excused absence, time will be provided to complete the assignments based on the number of days absent. As an example, three days absence will receive three days to make up the assignments.

**Teacher Website:** Please use my teacher website [www.cbsd.org/Domain/3209](http://www.cbsd.org/Domain/3209) to find online textbooks, powerpoints, study guides, helpful links, and a calendar of important dates.

**Text Reminders:** Sign up for text alerts for updates on homework, tests, quizzes, labs, and other important dates by texting @greskosci7 to 81010 \*\*\*parents and students may do this

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

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_