

Course Title

Grade 6 Physical Science

Contact Information:

Ms. Jennifer Pillsbury

763-506-4679

Jennifer.Pillsbury@ahschools.us

Program/Course Understandings: Students will understand that science is way of learning about the world through asking questions, conducting investigations, collecting and analyzing data, and communicating findings.

Students will study the following concepts/topics and look at how they affect their everyday lives including: skills of a scientist, scientific inquiry methods, matter, energy transformations, motion and forces, and the engineering process.

Expectations for Students:

- **Materials Needed for Science:**

- Pencil
- **1 inch 3 ring binder dedicated to only Science**
- Small amount of loose leaf paper
- 5 tab dividers (**please leave in the package for us to organize in class**)
- Independent reading book.
- **All papers that are handed out are color-coded and three-hole punched to be filed into a specific tabbed category. All students are expected to keep their binder organized as instructed. All papers should remain in the binder unless otherwise directed.**

- **Behavior**

- Respect the right of other students to learn.
- Responsibility - Arrive to class on time and prepared to learn.

- **Homework**

It is the responsibility of the learner to complete all homework assignments. To find out what assignments your student should be working on, please check your student's planner under "Science" or check on AH-Connect. I will accept all student work turned in prior to the current unit of study's summative assessment for full credit (most units are 5 to 6 weeks).

- **Grade Posting**

AH-Connect is automatically updated anytime a teacher inputs scores. **Please check regularly.** If you have not created a free account to access your student's information, please call 763-506-4357.

- **Communication**

Communication is an essential part to the success of your student. If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail me or call me. E-mail is the fastest and most efficient way to communicate with me during school hours. I will respond within 24 hours.

Ask to see your child's planner on a regular basis. Check AH-Connect on a weekly basis (You will be able to see everything that is in my grade book for your child). Ask your child questions about what they are learning and have them explain labs they are conducting in class.

Grading Practices

Percentage Breakdown:

5 % - Practice Assignments

Includes items such as homework, labs, class work, and any additional assignments.

5 % - Mastery Quizzes

These quizzes will be given frequently allowing students and teacher to monitor the need for remediation and enrichment.

10 % - End of Term Final Assessment

All students are required to take the same end of term assessment in order to demonstrate their mastery of concepts learned during the trimester.

80% - Learning Targets Mastered

Assessments are opportunities for students to demonstrate their mastery of specific learning targets taught in class.

Each week we will focus our lessons and activities on specific learning targets. Students will take frequent quizzes, which will be given in order to inform us as the teacher and the students of their proficiency in specific areas. If students struggle in any areas, they will be encouraged and allowed the opportunity to do an additional practice or seek help. These formative assessments will count as part of the 5% Mastery Quiz category, however, students must pass or re-take these quizzes to demonstrate an understanding of 80% or higher in order to earn the ability to re-test if needed.

Students will also take summative assessments, which will serve as the final product in demonstrating mastery of each learning target. Unit summative assessments will be broken down into multiple scores in the grade book as they relate to each specific learning target covered.

Students will earn the ability to re-test on specific learning targets by meeting the following criteria:

- Demonstrated mastery on the quiz aligned with specific learning targets (Score of 80% or higher, re-quizzes offered).
- If students struggled on a quiz (79% or lower) they must complete an extra practice assignment to help prepare them for the unit assessment.
- **All** assignments, including extra practices must be completed prior to the unit assessment.

What if my student doesn't understand a topic and does poorly on a test? How can my student not be left behind? What if my student understands a topic really well? How can my student be challenged more? **Opportunities for both remediation and enrichment will be utilized throughout each specific learning target and unit throughout the school year.**

With such a large chunk of a student's grade being the test portion, it is expected that a student study before each and every assessment. All assessments will be completed during class time.