



8th Grade Science with Ms. Heilner

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Team 8A—Duke Dust Devils —
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Course Description:

In this standards-based course, students will explore the basics in several science areas. Inquiry is at the heart of each lesson, concept, and unit. Students will utilize their knowledge of the scientific method, as well as the engineering method used across the globe, in order to explore the scientific world. Students will learn to question appropriately and formulate hypotheses. Students will design their own experiments, culminating with the Science Fair experiment completed individually. Physics is the main topic during the first quarter—focusing on Newton's Three Laws of Motion as well as motion and forces. Students will end the quarter working on Position-Time Graphs. Second quarter will allow students a brief look into our chemical world. Students will conduct various experiments in order to understand physical and chemical properties as well as chemical reactions. Students will explore the Periodic Table of Elements and learn to read each element square. Students are required to follow proper safety guidelines provided at the start of second quarter. Students will explore the biology field during the third quarter with in-depth investigations into the adaptations of plants and animals and the study of heredity. Fourth quarter will allow students to develop and use mathematical models to explain wave characteristics and interactions.

8th grade science is an AIMS tested subject.

About Ms. Heilner:

The 19-20 school year begins my 17th year of teaching junior high science. I love sharing my passion for science with students each day. Students can expect to hear many stories about my daughter, Peyton (10) and our naughty doggies, Primrose & Grady. My weekends typically revolve around coffee, reading, and Target. When the weather is nice, I enjoy spending time outdoors with my family.

Professionally, I have high expectations for all students and am available to help students meet those expectations. I believe all students can learn and that parents play an important role in their child's education.

Academic Dishonesty (Cheating):

*** I will not tolerate any cheating in this class. ***

This includes but is not limited to:

- Copying homework
- Copying on tests
- Copying and pasting from the internet (plagiarism)

Students need to write, phrase, and organize their thoughts individually.

- Therefore during group assignments, copying directly from group members would constitute cheating as well.

Students caught cheating will receive a zero on said assignment.

This policy includes working on science in another class.

- Do not do this without direct permission from the teacher of the class you are in.
- All teachers know to take it, throw it away and contact me.
On the flip side, don't ever work on other work in here unless you have asked. I will trash it.

Recommended Supplies:

- 4 single subject spiral notebooks (70 pages, college ruled) (one notebook per quarter)
- colored pencils & hand sharpener
- pencils... LOTS OF PENCILS (extra lead if using mechanical)
- pens (at least one in a color OTHER THAN black please!)
- highlighter
- several large glue sticks
- graphing paper (loose leaf)
- area in binder or folder to keep important papers
- positive attitude & willingness to LEARN & explore

Behavior

All students are held to the highest standard for behavior. Students are expected to act appropriately at all times and accept consequences for their behavior, both positive and negative.

Respect yourself & others.

Parents will be notified of situations that have escalated above simple classroom redirection.

Electronic Devices



At times, electronic devices (cell phones, music players, tablets, etc) will be allowed within the classroom. Students are ONLY allowed to use these devices when teacher permission is given. Students using devices during unapproved times will be given a CARE referral and the device will be confiscated. Parents must pick up the item from the front office. Please refer to the BYOT district guidelines located at: <http://www.cusd80.com/byot>

<u>Quarter 1</u>	<u>Quarter 2</u>	<u>Quarter 3</u>	<u>Quarter 4</u>
* Scientific Method	* Scientific Method	* Scientific Method	* Review for AIMS & AzMerit
* Newton's 3 Laws of Motion	* Physical & Chemical Properties	* Adaptations	* Scientific Method
* Position-Time & Velocity-Time Graphs	* Chemical Reactions	* Cellular Biology	* Waves
* Science Fair	* Periodic Table of Elements	* Genetics	* Energy
	* Science Fair		

Interactive Spiral Notebook:

The purpose of the interactive notebook is to enable you to be a creative, independent and reflective thinker and writer throughout the year. Interactive notebooks will be used for class notes as well as for other activities where you will be asked to express your own ideas and process and/or apply the information and skills learned in this class. This will also help you review for quarter finals.



Videos & Video Clips:

Throughout the year, we may watch videos and video clips that support our curriculum. Any clips from feature films are rated G or PG. Science videos and documentaries are not rated. By signing the attached acknowledgement that you understand this policy, you are consenting that you are aware of this. If you are not comfortable with this, please contact me.

Staying Informed, Questions, Concerns:

If you have questions or concerns, please call or email immediately. One of the most important lessons a child can learn at this age is about advocating for themselves. If your student is unsure of a grade, assignment, or something that happened in class, encourage them to bring it up at an appropriate time! This covers the basic rules of the class. Please feel free to ask if you have any questions regarding the information. Rules are not always fun, but they do serve an important purpose. Every rule and procedure in this class exists with the aim of helping all students to do their best.



Yours in Education,

Lori Heilner



Grading & Late Work:

I believe the focus is on student learning and achievement. A student's grade should communicate academic achievement: what the student knows and is able to do as measured against the learning standards of the course. Assignments must be completed to accurately assess what a student knows and is able to do so that appropriate feedback can be given to every student. Practice and/or preparation (homework/classwork) is essential for learning.

To better serve our student's educational needs and prepare them to meet future expectations, Ms. Heilner will adhere to the following late work policy:

- 1 Day Late = 15% deducted
- 2 Days Late = 30% deducted
- 3-5 Days Late = 50% deducted
- 5+ Days Late = 0% credit

Students who fail to complete assignments on due dates will:

- Communicate with the teacher regarding their situation and needs for the missing work.
- Be expected to complete the assignment
- Receive a "M" (for Missing) in the Infinite Campus grade book. This means that it will be averaged as a "0" until the assignment is submitted

Attendance is Important!:

Students are expected to gather their absent work immediately upon returning to the classroom. It is the student's responsibility to get notes, assignments, and activities for the time they were absent. An absent work area will be available in the classroom. Students are expected to ASK if they aren't sure what to do. Failure to gather absent work is not acceptable.

Sign-Up for Text Reminders:

In order to receive text messages about my classroom, please text @HEILNER19 to 81010

Parents and students are highly encouraged to use this service, however it is not required.

