

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science with Mrs. Renstrom

Website: [scmiddlescience.weebly.com](http://scmiddlescience.weebly.com)

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Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Integrated Science. The theme of this class is 'How energy changes...'. We will learn about how energy changes items in chemistry, biology, geology, and physics. This will include covering topics such as physical and chemical changes, the rock cycle, simple machines, and ecosystems. The class will follow the state core curriculum that can be found on [www.USOE.org](http://www.USOE.org).

My classroom expectations and requirements are detailed within this letter. Please remember that all school and Washington County School District policies will be followed as stated on the district website.

## 1. Preparation:

Students need to attend class each day with the following materials: A pen/pencil, paper, and science binder.

## 2. Science Binder:

**Students are required to provide and keep a science binder throughout the year and bring it to class each day. This will be a 1" three ring binder.**

## 3. Grading:

Students will be graded on the *Guaranteed Viable Curriculum (GVC)* as outlined in the Utah State Core Curriculum. This means that students need to obtain mastery in each *GVC* of the Science Core. This will be done through *GVC* based quizzes, tests, and assessment labs. Students will be given quizzes on each objective within the standard and if a student does not reach mastery they will be given an intervention assignment. For a student to retake any quiz or unit exam, both the intervention and applicable assignments must first be completed. The students who reach mastery the first time will be given an extension assignment to increase their knowledge of the subject. 70% of the final grade will be from quizzes, tests, and performance labs (assessments) and 30% will be from classwork, participation, labs, projects, starters, and activities (coursework). Students will turn in their binder with coursework at mid-term and at the end of term.

93-100% = A

83-86% = B

73-76% = C

63-66% = D

90-92% = A-

82-80% = B-

70-72% = C-

62-60% = D-

87-89% = B+

77-79% = C+

67-69% = D+

0-59% = F

\*\*On occasions students may grade work in class, either their own or another student's. It has been shown that this is an excellent learning activity for students.

4. **Late Work:** All assignments and lab work are due on BINDER CHECK day. This happens once at mid-term and once at the end of the term. If an assignment is missing at the mid-term binder check, the assignment can still be turned in for full points at the final binder check of the quarter. Assignments turned in after the final binder check of the quarter will receive 0 points. The only exception to this final due date is for missing work due to an absence the class period immediately prior to the final due date.

## 5. Classroom Behavior Expectations:

All School and District rules will be followed. In addition, my classroom rules are:

- Be on time, on task, and prepared to learn.
- Be responsible for your own learning.

- c. Respect the teacher, classroom, and other students.
- d. Personal electronics are for educational purposes only and are only allowed to be used when invited to do so.

**6. Citizenship:**

Students are expected to display good citizenship at all times. Failure to do so or to break classroom rules will result in a lower citizenship grade.

**7. Videos:**

Videos or clips from videos will be shown on occasion in the classroom and could have a PG- 13 rating. Please check and initial the appropriate box below.

I GIVE my permission for my student to watch PG-13 movies that relate to scientific topics  \_\_\_\_\_

I do NOT give my permission for my student to watch PG-13 movies that relate to scientific topics  \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Website:**

I have created a website that has links to all coursework as well as pictures and videos of labs we do in class. Occasionally I will post pictures of students. Please check and initial the appropriate box below.

I GIVE my permission for my student's picture to be on Mrs. Renstrom's Science website  \_\_\_\_\_

I do NOT give my permission for my student's picture to be on Mrs. Renstrom's Science website  \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Laboratory Safety:**

Safety in the science laboratory is the number 1 priority for students, teachers and parents. To ensure a safe science classroom, the students will be taught lab safety. Students are required to pass a lab safety quiz as well as agree to the rules in the Science Lab Safety Contract. The contract is found on the website [www.scmiddlescience.weebly.com](http://www.scmiddlescience.weebly.com) on the home page. Please go to the website, read through the contract with your student, and sign below that you agree to follow these rules and procedures in the science laboratory. **Students will not be allowed to enter the science laboratory without your signature and their signature below.**

\*I have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules in the Science Lab Safety Contract. I am aware that any violation of these rules may result in being removed from the laboratory. \_\_\_\_\_ (Student)

\*My signature indicates that I have read the Science Lab Safety Contract with my son/daughter and I will instruct him/her to uphold his/her agreement and follow the lab safety rules. \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian)

**10. Allergies:**

Please list any specific allergies your students may have: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for the opportunity to be your student's teacher.

**\*\*\*Please sign and return this disclosure. Additional copies may be obtained at [scmiddlescience@weebly.com](mailto:scmiddlescience@weebly.com).**

Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Required for your student: one 1" 3-ring binder

Suggested class donations: colored pencils, glue sticks, adult size scissors, rulers, 1" 3-ring binders