

Mrs. Baxter's 7th Grade Honors Science Syllabus

This is going to be a fun and exciting year! Among other things, we will learn about life sciences and the different systems of the body that will sustain life. We will be challenging ourselves with research, experiments, and career connections. I know all of you can be successful if you choose to give your best effort each and every day.

In order to be successful, students will need to attend class every day, arrive on time, and bring their required supplies. The required class supplies include: pencil, paper, folder and composition notebook (or 2-70pg spirals). It is also recommended that students bring colored pencils, scissors, glue stick, and highlighter daily.

Canvas will be used during the school year for some lessons as well as copies of notes, some tests, some projects and important announcements. Parents and students can stay current with announcements by using REACH. Parents can shadow your student(s) on Canvas. Directions for shadowing your student(s) are on the following link: <https://www.smores.com/pguzr>.

RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

While fun and exciting, the science classroom and lab can also be a dangerous environment if all the safety rules and procedures are not followed. All students are required and expected to follow all classroom and lab safety rules.

1. Students are encouraged to bring their personal electronic devices to class everyday as we will use them often. Acceptable devices include: tablets and laptops. Unacceptable devices include, but are not limited to: smart phones (this has been added by the district this year), MP3 players, handheld video games, cameras and other devices identified as distracting to the learning environment.

If devices are not being used in the lesson for the day, students will turn their electronics off and will place all electronics in their backpacks at the beginning of class. Students may only use their electronic devices on days when we will use them for the lesson or with permission from the teacher on specific learning activities for other classes.

Students who choose not to follow the rules regarding electronic devices will have their device taken up and turned into the office. Students and parents will have to contact the office for release of electronic devices.

2. Students will not use any lab tools or equipment without permission of the teacher.
3. Absolutely no horseplay, food, drinks, or gum in the lab.
4. Students will not enter the prep room without permission from the teacher.

5. Students will be respectful and courteous to the teacher, school staff, and classmates at all times. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary actions.
6. All students will use appropriate protective equipment and tools such as but not limited to aprons, gloves, goggles, eyewash stations, fire blankets, and fire extinguishers.
7. Participation in labs is a privilege not a right, students failing to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner will not be allowed to participate in the lab. Instead they will be given an equivalent assignment.
8. Students failing to conduct themselves in accordance with the Red Oak Middle School code of conduct will face consequences, to include classroom removal, as outlined in the student code of conduct.

A point system will be used as a behavior management tool. Students who do not follow classroom rules will receive points based on the severity of the infraction. The more severe the behavior, the more points a student will earn. For example, talking out of turn after a verbal warning from the teacher might warrant only one point, whereas horse playing in the lab and causing a safety issue might warrant 3 points. Each student will receive a verbal warning to correct their behavior. Students who choose not to correct their behavior will then begin earning points toward disciplinary actions.

Accumulation of 4 points in one class period will result in the student earning a detention. Students who earn 5 points during one class period will receive an office referral. 5 points earned in one week will be a detention. Points will be reset to 0 at the end of every week.

9. Students must have a ROMS ID card, or office issued temporary ID card, and be in proper dress code to enter the science class. Students who are not in dress code or do not have proper ID will be sent to the office to correct the violations.

GRADES/HOMEWORK/MAKE-UP WORK/EXTRA CREDIT

All students will be graded in accordance with Red Oak ISD grading policy. Student grades will be calculated with 40% of the grade coming from tests and 60% based on a daily grade.

Grades are calculated on a traditional grading scale.

90%-100% - A	80%-89% - B
70%-79% - C	0%-69% - F

Students will need to complete all classwork, CANVAS and project assignments. Failure to complete these items could result in a non-passing grade. Students will be allowed to make up a test grade that is less than a 70%, for a score no higher than a 70%. ***NOTE*** This does not include state mandated testing.

Students who miss assignments due to an absence or an excused school related function will have 1 class day for each missed day to make up the assignment(s). After the 2nd day, points will be deducted in accordance with my late work policy.

Late work will be accepted within the grading period assigned, with a 10 point deduction for each day the assignment is late, up to 50 points. Work that is more than one week late will receive an automatic 50 point deduction.

Due to the generous make-up, retest, and late work policy there will be limited opportunities for extra credit. Students who wish to receive an extra credit assignment must first complete all missing assignments prior to being allowed to attempt extra credit.

A Final Note From Mrs. Baxter

Above all else, students should remember that I am here to help. We will work hard this year, we will face our share of challenges but I will always be here to answer questions and to help guide students on the right path. My number one goal is student success and I know that when we work together all students can have success in 7th Grade Science.

Tutoring Schedule: Monday 7:30am and Tuesday after school, if another time is needed please contact me to schedule.

Teacher conference time = 7:55-8:45am

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at joanna.baxter@redoakisd.org

Student Name: _____

Class Period: _____

Signature page due _____

Mrs. Baxter's Science Class Parent Acknowledgement Form

Please sign below indicating that you have read and understand Mrs. Baxter's:

- Classroom Syllabus
- Lab Safety Rules
- Behavior Management Plan
- Grading, Homework, and Make-up Work Policy

You also understand that in Science class we will be using Canvas. This is an online resource where students can access class notes, powerpoint presentations, video links, and study materials. Students will also turn in assignments using Canvas. If you do not have internet access at home, it is your child's responsibility to come in during tutoring hours to complete the work and submit it online.

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Questions: _____
