

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Syllabus

<u>Teachers and Subjects</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Ms. Herrera: Math	clazo@hha47.org
Mrs. Poole: Science	KMPoole@bcps.k12.md.us
Mr. Farber: Humanities	JMFarber@bcps.k12.md.us

### **Goal**

It may seem like a long way out, but college is just around the corner. 6<sup>th</sup> grade marks the beginning of middle school, then in three years comes high school, and after high school students will have options with what they choose to pursue next in their lives. Our goal for 6<sup>th</sup> grade is to work hard every day in order to pursue whatever each student chooses to do after high school, whether it be attending trade/technical school, getting a job, or going to college. These life decisions do not have to be made now, but the hard work and skills needed to pursue these goals starts right now. All students will come into 6<sup>th</sup> grade with different abilities, but please keep this in mind: it doesn't matter how much or how little a student knows coming into the year, the only thing that matters is how much personal growth they have made by the end.

### **Overview**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade is the first year of middle school for students at Hampstead Hill Academy. In middle school, the expectations are higher and the workload is heavier than anything students have experienced before. Some students may experience some difficulties during the "transition time" into middle school. There will be resources available to help students succeed in 6<sup>th</sup> grade including after school coach classes, study hall and independent tutoring sessions; however students are responsible for seeking out these resources.

### **Supplies**

Supplies listed on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade supply list are expected to be with the student *on the first day of school and throughout the school year*. It is expected that all students be prepared for class and bring necessary supplies to class daily. Consistent failure to bring supplies will result in consequences for the student. If supplies are lost or misplaced it is the responsibility of the student to replace them. HHA will supply one free student planner/agenda. If a student loses their planner they will need to purchase a new one for \$5.00.

### **Rules**

There are three basic and simple rules that govern middle school classrooms:

- 1.) Respect each other
- 2.) Respect yourself
- 3.) Respect your environment

## **Student Behavior and Consequences**

Students are expected to behave in accordance with the classroom rules. Failure to follow the rules will result in specific consequences that are consistent with the consequences for Hampstead Hill Academy.

### 1. Non-verbal intervention

Ex. "I feel excited to see 80% of the class tracking the speaker, we are waiting on a few more" or "I feel frustrated when I need to wait for 2 people to be silent"

### 2. Public or Private Correction- first demerit

Ex. "I need (insert name) to stop talking during instruction."

### 3. Private Restorative Conference – second demerit

### 4. Restorative Referral – third demerit

### 5. Detention from 2:40-3:30 – fourth demerit

In most cases, consequences will be given in the order shown. *However, in some cases certain consequences may be skipped if the teacher decides such action is necessary. ( ex. fighting, stealing, cheating, etc...)*

## **Leaders Go Places**

Hampstead Hill Academy's Leaders Go Places is a middle school program designed to promote scholarship, citizenship and leadership. Each quarter students will have the opportunity to work towards a leadership level by earning good grades, completing two or more hours of service learning as well as maintaining good attendance, work ethic and behavior. These components will determine whether a student is eligible for a particular leadership level – bronze, silver, gold or platinum. Hard work will be rewarded in many ways, including day-long field trips.

## **Grading**

Grades are weighted in the following categories:

-Classwork and Participation (50%)

-Assessments/Projects (40%)

-Homework (10%)

## **Homework and Study Hall**

It is middle school, so homework will be assigned daily in most classes including weekends. Completion of homework is a vital component of student academic success in the middle school. Every student will be provided with an agenda book at the beginning of the year which they will use to write down their homework and keep track of school events.

If a student does not complete their homework it is **mandatory** that they stay after school for study hall that day to complete all missing work. Study hall supersedes all other after school extracurricular activities. If a student fails to attend assigned study hall the consequence is a detention the following day. **Parents/guardians will receive notification through classroom dojo if their student has been**

**assigned study hall. This is the only way parents will be notified. If you haven't provided your students' homeroom teacher with your email, please do so as soon as possible so that you can receive classroom dojo notifications.**

### **Agenda**

Each student is provided with an agenda book at the beginning of the school year. As students move further into their education it will be important that they begin to self-organize. The agenda will be used to help students organize their homework, assignments, extracurricular activities, school events and personal lives. Agendas will be checked on a daily basis and will be a graded item. Students who lose an agenda will be required to purchase a new one for the cost of \$5.00.

### **Portfolios**

Throughout the year students will be compiling their best work into a student portfolio binder. Students will end the year with approximately 9 pieces of outstanding personal work. Student portfolio binders will follow students throughout middle school, so that upon 8th grade graduation, they will have a collection of exemplar work.

## ***Science***

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade with Mrs. Poole, students will learn how to think, act and speak like scientists. Students will use the program called IQWST (*Eye-Quest*). In science class students will use an interdisciplinary approach, including aspects of physics, earth science, geography, mathematics, chemistry, and biology to enhance their knowledge of the scientific world. Some of the specialized areas which students will cover this year include:

**Unit 1: Physical Science: Can I Believe My Eyes?**

**Unit 2: Introduction to Chemistry: How Can I Smell Things from a Distance?**

**Unit 3: Life Science: Where Have All the Creatures Gone?**

**Unit 4: Earth Science: How Does Water Shape Our World?**

### **Science Workbooks**

Workbooks will be a significant part of each student's daily grade in Earth Science class. Throughout each unit students will be asked to utilize a digital science workbook. Workbooks will document students' learning progress, demonstrate their scientific knowledge, and serve as a tool to track daily participation. When recording ideas, students should always write in complete and detailed sentences.

### **Participation**

Students will be expected to actively participate in all class discussions, activities and labs. Class participation is the student's opportunity to contribute to the class and a chance for them to show the teacher that they have been paying attention and are learning.

**Labs**

Students must follow Lab Safety Rules at **all times**. Failure to properly participate in labs will result in zero labs conducted. Labs are one of the most exciting parts about science class, however labs are a privilege for hard working academics. During labs students will learn how to approach and analyze problems, formulate questions, establish facts, determine meaningful observation, use both reasoning and critical thinking skills to aid in scientific investigation.

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**Science Contract Agreement:**

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus by Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

I have read, understand and agree to the terms stated in this syllabus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature (Signed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature (Signed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date