

Seventh Grade Science

Mr. Knight
Room 224

Welcome to science class!

Please share the following information with your parents. If you have any questions, ask me during the school day or send me an email (michael.knight@k21schools.org), and I will be glad to help you.

Due to COVID-19, some of the information provided here may change due to unforeseeable circumstances, especially if it becomes necessary to transition from full-time in person to part- or full-time online.

Materials

Please bring the following for science (the school district plans on providing many of these supplies this year):

- 1) A science folder in a 3-ring binder. This is for homework, worksheets, labs, etc.
- 2) Loose-leaf paper: wide or college ruled
- 3) Pencils and pens (blue or black ink only)
- 4) Earbuds or headphones to use with your laptop
- 5) Also helpful, but not required: ruler, calculator, glue stick, handheld pencil sharpener, and scissors
- 6) Each quarter, a box of nitrile (or latex) gloves and a bottle of hand sanitizer may be brought in to share for extra credit (5 points each)

Assignments

- 1) Homework is due the next day unless otherwise noted.
- 2) Almost all homework is to finish assignments you were unable to finish in class; most students finish if they stay focused and use their time wisely.
- 3) Classwork and homework are to be completed **on time**. Late classwork or homework will receive a grade of 50% if completed satisfactorily. However, late work may always be turned in until the end of the quarter.
- 4) If activities and labs are handed in on time and are complete (all data present and all questions attempted), the lowest grade you will receive is 70%. Late activities and labs will be marked down one letter grade (10%), and incomplete activities and labs will have points taken off for missing data and missing answers to questions. If too much data is missing or too many questions are not answered, the assignment will be marked incomplete, and it will need to be completed before receiving a grade (and in most cases this will mean it is also late).
- 5) Make sure to complete all study guides and keep them until the end of the unit (even if the unit ends in the next quarter). **Never** throw them away (or delete study guides submitted online). There will usually be plenty of time to complete study guides, if you do not complete them during the time allotted in class.
- 6) If you are absent, you will be allowed to make up assignments, although some assignments may be excused. You will have the number of days you were absent plus one to complete all the work you missed during your absence. You may also arrange to have someone pick up your work for you so you can work on it while you are absent. Also, if you know you will be absent, for example, if you are going on a trip, you may get some of your work ahead of time. Usually check with me one or two days before you leave, as I will have a better idea of what to give you at that time.
- 7) Papers should have the following heading (and many assignments include points for having a complete heading):
 - First and last name
 - Date
 - Period
 - Title of assignment (if not already printed on the assignment)

Class Webpage

- 1) Access the class webpage at portaportal.com, using guest access: smsknight (or you can just type portaportal.com/smsknight in the address bar to go directly to the class webpage).
- 2) The class webpage has many other links for studying vocabulary online, class presentations, study guides, most worksheets, and many of the websites we use in class. It is a valuable resource, so use it often.

Grades

- 1) Grades will be based on the following:

Classwork/Homework	33.3% of grade
Activities and labs	33.3% of grade
Tests and quizzes	33.3% of grade
- 2) Organization and neatness will also be a part of the grade in each of the above categories.
- 3) Check your grades frequently in PowerSchool. This is a great way to check your progress and to see what you are missing in all of your classes. The office will provide you with your username and password. You or your parents may ask for progress reports if you do not have access to the internet at home.

Behavior Expectations

- 1) Students are expected to be respectful of people and of property (including their own).
- 2) Students are expected to be seated and prepared to work as soon as they enter the classroom.
- 3) Students are expected to make good use of their class time to complete assignments. (It is not an option to "save" an assignment for homework.)
- 4) Students are expected to bring their book, computer, notebook, paper, and a pencil each day.
- 5) Students are expected to follow all rules of the school (PBIS matrix).
- 6) If a student is disruptive, the following are some of the possible consequences which will occur:

-Verbal warning	-Telephone call home
-Time out	-Loss of lunch recess
-Seating change	-Referral to office
-Student-teacher conference	-After-school detention

Science Topics

- 1) Scientific method and skills of scientists
- 2) Metric system
- 3) Classification and kingdoms of life
- 4) Ecology
- 5) Cells
- 6) Human biology
- 7) Simple machines and work
- 8) Outdoor education—camping skills