

7th Grade Science 2015-2016

Welcome to Mrs. Reese's science class. I want every student to be successful and exceed my expectations, but first, I want to make sure that you understand exactly what I expect of you this year.

THE GOALS OF MRS. REESE'S 7TH GRADE SCIENCE CLASS:

1. To discover an appreciation of the natural world.
2. To promote a positive social impact through scientific inquiry.
3. To learn and improve the skills and knowledge needed for scientific inquiry.
4. To grow and mature in the ability to do Science and to think scientifically.
5. To learn and practice courtesy, cooperation, responsibility, respect, honesty and integrity.
6. To be successful and productive learners and better members of our school and society.

Mrs. Reese's Expectations

1. **Be courteous, respectful, honest, and responsible.**
2. **Be On Time:** Make sure you are on time for class and that your assignments are turned in on time. School policy states that 3 tardies will result in a detention, and you may also miss important directions or information if you are late.
 - a. Your assignments should also be on time.
 - i. A daily assignment that is turned in late will receive 60% credit. If the late assignment is to be graded in class that day and discussed it will receive a zero.
 - ii. Major projects that are turned in late will result in a 1 letter grade deduction from the amount of credit earned for each day that it is late, until a level of 60% is reached. The project will be marked as a zero until turned in for grading.
 - iii. No name papers will be placed in the "no-name bin" on the table by the door. If you do not receive an assignment back, or you have a zero in the grade book, it will be your responsibility to check the bin for a no-name paper.
 - iv. Band lessons and field trips do not mean you are excused from the class work that day. You will still be responsible for checking with your teachers and getting any missing assignments before you leave for the day. Any late work as a result will result in grade reductions.
 - v. Consequences for missing assignments can include: detention, parent conference, missing school activities like pep assemblies and field trips, or in-school suspension. Consequences are handled on a case-by-case basis.
3. **Be Safe!!!** Follow all school safety rules and be especially careful during laboratory activities.
4. **Be Prepared:** Make sure you have all your materials and assignments necessary for science class.
5. **Be Organized:** Keep a neat science notebook and folder. Write all assignments in your assignment notebook immediately.
6. **Be Successful:** Do your best work at all times.

Required Materials * Indicates materials which should come to class everyday.

1. Loose leaf Paper
2. Spiral or Journal Style Notebook*
3. Folder or Binder*
4. Pens and Pencils (Include 1 red pen for self-grading)*
5. Metric Ruler
6. Colored Pencils

Notebooks and Summaries

You will be expected to maintain a notebook that will include information from class, summaries, twitter exit slips, etc... You will be checked periodically to make sure your notebook is in class and up-to-date.

Assessments and Homework

We will complete many different types of assessments in science this year including tests, quizzes, lab reports, presentations, group projects, etc... The variety of assignments will allow each of you to showcase your strengths and improve your weaknesses.

Homework will be worth fewer points than tests, and projects, however there will be several homework assignments throughout the trimester. Homework is a great way to help your grade if it is completed on time and is high quality.

Grading Procedures

Grades will be based on the total number of points accumulated throughout the trimester. Daily work and quizzes will be worth fewer points than tests, lab reports, and projects.

To calculate your final grades at any time simply add the total number of points you have earned by the total number of points possible. (Example $345/355$ points = 97% A)

I will expect each of you to monitor your grades in the on-line parent portal. This will mean knowing you user ID and password. You and your parents will share the same ID and password.

Contact Information

Please feel free to call me with any questions at 847-990-4175 or through e-mail at reesej@hawthorn73.org and do not forget to check the school web site at as well, for questions on homework assignments.

Guidelines for a Successful Science Classroom

I want all of you to be successful in science class this year. A science lab can be a lot of fun and a great learning experience, but because we use more equipment and materials than most classes, it is important to always be conscientious and on your best behavior.

Rules and Consequences

1. Respect this learning environment, your teacher, your peers and yourself.
2. Listen and follow directions.
3. Raise your hand before speaking or leaving your seat.
4. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.

The consequences for breaking the rules are:

1st time: Student receives a verbal warning

2nd time in the same class period: Student receives a 10 minute "Time Out"

3rd time in the same class period: Student receives a letter that must go home to the parents and come back signed the next day. Failure to turn in signed letter will result in a detention.

Course Overview for 7th Grade Science

7th grade science will be broken into major units:

Weather

NGSS Standards: PS3-3 , PS3-4, ESS2-4, ESS2-4, ESS2-5

This unit focuses on the changes of the atmosphere at particular times and places.

Climate

NGSS Standards: ESS2-6, ESS3-3, ESS3-5, EST1-1

This unit focuses on average weather conditions in an area over a long period of time and how natural and unnatural changes to climate occur.

Cells and Cell Processes

NGSS Standards: LS1-1, LS1-2, LS1-3, LS1-6

This unit focuses on the basic unit of life, the cell. It looks at parts of the cell and how cells function.

Genetics and Heredity

NGSS Standards: LS3-1, LS3-2

This unit focuses on how traits are passed from parent to offspring.

Evolution

NGSS Standards: LS1-4, LS1-5, LS4-4, LS4-5

This unit focuses on the origin of species based on natural and unnatural causes over a period of time.

Classification

NGSS Standards: LS1-4, LS1-5

This unit focuses on the categorization of species based on shared characteristics and adaptations.