

TAG 6th Grade Earth Science Syllabus

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Description:

We have an exciting year full of science ahead of us! This year, we'll be learning about earth and space science. Our goal is to support **every** child with learning the disciplinary core ideas of Earth Science. In this class, our instruction will align with the Georgia Standards of Excellence (see georgiastandards.org for more information):

"The Science Georgia Standards of Excellence drive instruction. **Hands-on, student-centered, and inquiry-based approaches will be the emphasis of instruction in this class.** Science consists of a way of thinking and investigating, as well a growing body of knowledge about the natural world. To become literate in science, students need to possess sufficient understanding of fundamental science content knowledge, the ability to engage in the science and engineering practices, and to use scientific and technological information correctly. Technology will be infused into the curriculum and the safety of the student will always be foremost in instruction."

Throughout the year, we will focus on the following concepts:

	Unit	Timeline
Semester 1	Class Procedures & Lab Safety	1 Week
	Density	2 Weeks
	Geology	11 Weeks
	Hydrology	5 Weeks
Semester 2	Weather	6 Weeks
	Astronomy	7 Weeks
	Natural Resources	3 Weeks

TAG:

Middle school TAG/Advanced classes are advanced content courses directly aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence. The TAG/Advanced curriculum is differentiated in order to make it rigorous and challenging for gifted learners. Additionally, it incorporates the following TAG/Advanced standards and elements: developing advanced communication skills, advanced research skills, problem solving, thinking creatively, and using higher order critical thinking skills. To help meet this end, various projects and enrichment activities will be utilized during the year.

Extra Support:

Please schedule an appointment if extra help is needed. Every student should be able to succeed in 6th grade science, so please ask for extra help if it is needed.

Expectations:

Students are required to come class prepared and on time every day:

- Tardy is defined school-wide as not being inside the classroom when the final bell rings. When the final bell rings to be in class, teachers will issue the student a Reminder. The student's tardy will be recorded and consequences will be assigned based upon the progressive consequence scale. Students who arrive to class later than the fifteen-minute window will be sent to the office for cutting class.
- Students need to make sure they have charged their Surfaces PRIOR to coming to class.
- Students must follow all lab safety rules as stated in the student safety contract.
- Students are expected to follow all other procedures communicated by the teacher.
- Students are provided with one agenda at the beginning of the year and are expected to use the student agenda as an organizational tool as well as a hall pass. Students will write the topic of the class and homework in their agenda every day for every class. If an agenda is lost, then a new agenda must be purchased. Agendas can be purchased in the Front Office for \$10.

Students that misbehave during instructional time may receive the following:

- Reminder 1: Non-verbal warning (teacher will hold up one finger as a reminder to student)
- Reminder 2: Verbal warning (student may be asked to stop a behavior, etc.)
- Reminder 3: Verbal warning and student conference.
- After three "Reminder 3" warnings, students will receive an administrative reminder.
- Serious violations will result in a student being sent to the administrative office. These violations could result in parental conferences or even suspension.

Make- Up Work:

Make- up work will be in a designated area in my classroom. Missed assignments are also available on OneNote, as weekly lesson plans are posted for the students to access. Students are responsible for all work missed while absent (unless otherwise stated). Before or during an absence, parents may request make-up assignments in person, phone, letter, or email. If parents request work, the work will be available in the office as soon as possible. The teacher will notify the parent as soon as the work is available. **All students are expected to make up any missing assignment due to an absence in a timely manner.** Unless an alternative date is provided, students have the number of days to complete the work equal to the number of days they were absent. All assignments will be turned in to assigned work turn-in work bin.

Retake/Recovery:

Mandatory Retake: If <73% is scored on a major assessment, students will be required to retake the assessment with teacher directed intervention. Students will receive ½ credit for corrected answers. Optional Retake: If >73% is scored on a major assessment, students will be given the option to retake the assessment. Students will need to self-guide the retake as teacher guided-intervention may not be available. Students will receive ½ credit for corrected answers.

Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade (<70) will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance.

Late Work:

If an assignment (classwork, minor or major assessment) is not turned in on the due date, an NHI (Not Handed In) will be recorded in the grade book. Students will lose 10 points per day that an assignment is late (up to 3 days). After 3 days that an assignment is late, a student will only receive 70% of the points earned. An NHI counts as a 0 until the assignment is turned in.

Missing Work:

Any student who fails to submit work within the three-day period will be referred to the graduation coach, and they will be required to attend working lunch. Once the student has attended his/her assigned working lunch, (s)he is expected to submit the assignment to his/her teacher by the following Monday. If the student does not submit the assignment in this time frame, then the late assignment will not be accepted by the teacher.

Guidance Counselor/Graduation Coach:

The Graduation Coach's primary responsibility is to work with all students to encourage academic success. Mrs. Nigro offers a variety of academic programs that can help students improve their academic performance. The Guidance Counselors are also available to assist with any academic and social needs you may encounter during the school year.

Materials:

- Agenda Book (provided by HBMS)
- 3" Binder with tab for Science (HBMS Notebook requirement)
- Pencils, pens, and erasers (at least 2 of each)
- Headphones (to use with Surfaces)

Textbook:

<u>Student Textbook Details:</u> Harcourt Houghton Mifflin (HMH) Georgia Science ISBN: 9781328494658	<u>Students will have:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Student Edition Interactive Worktext - replacement cost \$88.20 2. Online Interactive Text 3. Downloadable PDF
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Students will have access to a paper and online textbook. Students will be assigned an Interactive Worktext to use in class. Students will also be able to access the electronic textbook through the Fulton County Schools Student Launchpad, here: <https://launchpad.classlink.com/fcs>
 From Fulton Launchpad click on the orange and white tab HMH Ed. Then, click on the white box in the upper left-hand corner and click on 6th Grade from the drop-down menu.

Grading:

CATEGORY	%
Major Assessments unit tests, final projects, final reports	45%
Minor Assessments quizzes, lab reports, projects	35%
Class Assignments (at least 1/week) lab worksheets, rough drafts	15%
Work Ethic homework, science notebooks (warm ups)	5%

FCS GRADING SCALE	
A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
F	below 70%

Remember that I'm here to make sure that every child has a successful year. **If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time.**

This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; some deviation may be necessary.