

UNIT

0

LESSON

0.1.1

*Common Questions***1. What supplies do I need for science?**

- Binder (just for science)
- Pens and pencils
- Assignment notebook
- Spiral or Composition Notebook

These must always be brought with you to class. You will not receive a textbook this year! If you would like one, you are welcome to check one out.

2. What happens if I am late to class?

If you have a pass from a teacher, please give the pass to me and go directly to your seat. If you are late and unexcused, you will be marked as tardy, and will sign the red folder. If you are tardy more than three times in a quarter, you will be given a demerit.

You are not late to class if you are excused, have a pass, or have talked with Mr. Ower prior to the bell ringing.

3. What do I do if I forgot some of my materials?

If you forget your supplies (science folder, homework, textbook, pen or pencil), please raise your hand at the beginning of class. You will need permission to leave the room to get your materials.

4. What do I do if I need to sharpen my pencil, get a Kleenex, or throw something away?

If you need to sharpen your pencil or get a tissue, please do so without interrupting the class or those around you. If you need to leave your seat for another reason, please raise your hand.

5. How much homework will we have?

Last year I didn't give much written homework (maybe 3-5 assignments per quarter). When you do have homework it shouldn't take you more than 15 minutes to complete. Most homework is just reading so you are ready for class.

6. What happens if I come to class without my homework done?

You will be sent to Homework Assistance (HWA). This is a before and after school program that allows you to complete your homework. You will not be penalized for turning an assignment in late if you go to HWA to complete it.

7. Is homework graded?

Yes and no. When you have homework you will be given a grade but it won't be counted toward your final grade. This allows you to make and fix errors without being penalized. This is a chance for you to see what you need to improve on and what you have mastered before taking a test.

8. Do we have a lot of tests and quizzes?

No! Hurrah! Each unit is divided into sections and each section has a quiz. If you are unhappy with your quiz score, you can retake it at the end of the unit. We do have "tests" but they are normally open-note resource labs or projects.

9. Where can I find my grades?

Grades will be available on the online Parent Portal. You can always check with Mr. Ower if you have any questions about your grade.

10. What do we do in class?

Most days in class will start with a warm-up to get you ready for what we will be learning. There will usually be a few minutes of lecture and note taking. I try not to talk for more than 15 minutes, but I can't always promise that! Afterwards we will do an activity. The activities vary: labs, observations, organizing information, group discussions etc. Your participation in the class is fully expected.

11. What happens if I miss class?

Before you come back to class, check the 7B science web site. Most information will be posted there. When you return, see me as soon as possible so I can help you catch up. It will be your responsibility to schedule a time with me to make up and missed activities and notes.

12. What should I do if I lose an assignment?

If you lose a worksheet, lab packet, a set of notes, etc., please check the web site. Most handouts are available online. If you can't find it online, please see me in class.

13. What is my science binder?

Your science binder is used to keep everything you receive in class. We use a binder because it is extremely easy to keep up-to-date and organized. Your binder will be checked at the end of the quarter to see how organized you are.

14. What are we going to learn about this year?

This is a survey science class. That means we will cover a lot of topics. For the first month we will learn about how science is done and review the periodic table and components of atoms. After that, we will spend our time on geology: minerals, rocks, geologic processes, and earth's history.

In the second half of the year we are going to focus on biology. This will include microscopes, microorganisms, cells, simple animals, and plants (if we have time). We will also dissect two organisms. Don't worry about it now! Dissection is the last thing we do and we'll talk all about it in May.