

PINE VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
2009 - 2010
7th Grade Science Class Policies
Mrs. Herrera

Welcome to 7th grade science! This will be an exciting and rewarding year. We will work together to look at the world around us and ourselves differently. The focus of 7th grade science is **Life Science**. The 7th grade curriculum is in alignment with the California State Framework.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

We will study five important topics:

- Cell Biology
- Genetics and Modern Genetics
- Evolution
- Structure and Function of living systems
- Structure and Function in the Human body (including Family Life)

GRADES

HOMEWORK

Assignments will be listed every day at the beginning of class and will be updated weekly on schoolloop.com. Copy the assignments onto your Assignment Sheet and your Binder Reminder.

CLASSWORK/ LABS

Class work will involve laboratory write-ups, study-aids, video notes, and other activities. Proper laboratory conduct will be expected and failure to do so will result in a loss of credit for the class assignment. If a classwork assignment is not completed in class, it may become homework.

ASSESSMENT

Assessments may include tests and projects. Test and quiz grades will vary. A portion of our projects will be done in class and grading will vary depending on the project. Projects may be done individually or in groups depending on the project.

* Daily warm-up: there will be a daily warm-up assignment upon entrance to class; students have to be seated, quiet, and ready to work on the warm-up before the bell rings in order to get points. The points are based on effort, not necessarily on correct answers.

*A Science & Technology news article is at least one full page of text with an attached 5-sentence summary about the article, this will replace the points missed when absent for the daily warm-up.

Letter grades are based on the percentage of the total possible assigned points:

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|
| 90-100% = A | 80-89% = B | 70-79% = C |
| 60-69% = D | Below 60% = F | |

Grades will be **weighted** as follows:

Assessment	40%
Class work/Labs	35%
Homework	20%
Warm-ups	5%

Grades are posted online on schoolloop.com. At times, parents will be asked to sign current grade printouts. However, students and parents are expected to regularly check grades on schoolloop.com.

LATE WORK/ABSENT WORK

Homework is due promptly at the beginning of class and will not receive credit unless it is turned in on time. One late pass will be issued per quarter and can be used attached to a completed late assignment for points. After the late pass is used up, please speak with Mrs. Herrera as to how missing points can be made up.

Following an excused absence, you must complete all the work you missed within a reasonable amount of time after returning. Any work assigned before your absence is due on the day of your return. It is your responsibility to find out what was missed and how to make it up. (This includes labs, videos, tests, quizzes, etc.) Check schoolloop.com and make an appointment with Mrs. Herrera to make up what was missed. Saturday school will be encouraged for students missing excessive amounts of work.

TEXTBOOKS

You will be issued the Prentice Hall textbook "Focus on Life Science". This book is to be kept and used at home, and costs \$72.69. You are responsible if your book is lost or damaged, so treat it with respect.

SUPPLIES

Bring the following to class EVERY DAY. If you come to class unprepared, class participation points will be deducted.

REQUIRED

Binder Reminder	White, lined, 3-hole, binder paper
Assignment sheet	Black or blue pens
Reading and Note-taking workbook	Pencils
Science Notebook/section of notebook	Red pens
	Calculator

HELPFUL

Stapler
 Highlighter
 Colored pencils

CLASS RULES

Rules in the classroom are the same as the rules outlined in the Pine Valley Handbook. Safety and consideration of others are most important!

TARDIES

If you are not in your seat quietly working on your warm-up with your supplies ready, you are considered tardy. Tardies will result in the automatic loss of warm-up points for the day and cannot be made-up. Repetitive tardies will be

subject to the Pine Valley discipline policy, which may include: parent phone calls, litter pick-ups, detentions, and referrals to the office.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mrs. Herrera lherrera@srvusd.net

925-479-7780

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Parents, please sign below to acknowledge that you have read this policy.
Students, return the signature and keep the policy in your science notebook for the entire year.

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____