

**Pine Valley Middle School**  
**Mrs. Irvin – Sixth Grade Science – 2009/2010**  
Email: [www.pvms.schoolloop.com](http://www.pvms.schoolloop.com) (preferred), or [dirvin@srvusd.net](mailto:dirvin@srvusd.net)

**Course Description**

The focus of sixth grade science is the study of the earth. We will use the California State Framework and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District guidelines as we explore our planet:

*Unit 1: Earth Systems and Processes*

Introduction to Earth Science  
Weathering and Soil  
Erosion and Deposition

*Unit 3: Weather and Climate*

The Atmosphere  
Weather  
Climate and Climate Change

*Unit 2: Plate Tectonics and Earth's Structure*

Plate Tectonics  
Earthquakes  
Volcanoes

*Unit 4: Ecology and Resources*

Ecosystems  
Living Resources  
Energy and Material Resources

**Grades**

All assignments are given point values:

Chapter Test 100 points

Quiz 10-30 points

Lab Report 15 points

Homework 5-10 points

Classwork 5-15 points

Binder Check 10-20 points

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

Roughly 45% of the total points will come from classwork, (including labs), 20% from homework, and 35% from tests and quizzes. Grades are posted online ([www.pvms.schoolloop.com](http://www.pvms.schoolloop.com)) and updated frequently, but please allow up to two weeks for an assignment to be posted.

**Science Binder**

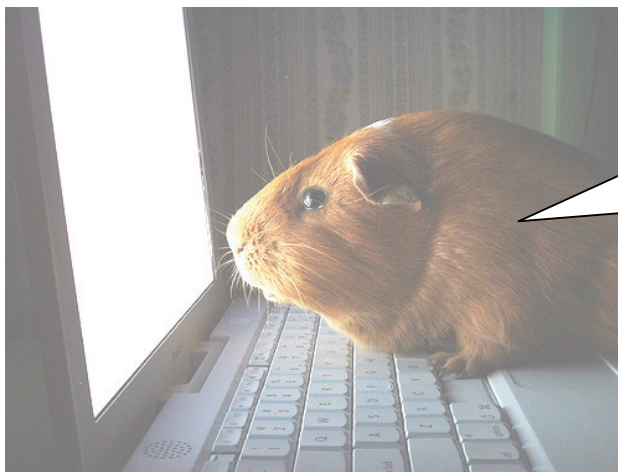
Keep all of your worksheets, classwork, homework, labs, notes, tests and quizzes in your science binder. The first page of your binder will be an assignment sheet where you will list all the assignments in order. At the end of every chapter, I will grade your binder on completeness, organization and neatness. Remember: bring that binder to class every day, keep it organized, and NEVER THROW ANY GRADED ASSIGNMENTS AWAY!

**Science Workbook**

You will be given a workbook (Reading and Notetaking Guide). Bring it to class every day! We will work on it during class, and you will also be assigned sections in it to complete for homework.

**Binder Reminder**

Bring your binder reminder to class every day. We start our science learning using the binder reminder.



Let's see... I'll just go to [www.pvms.schoolloop.com](http://www.pvms.schoolloop.com) and check on my grade in science... Yeah! It's an A!

### Classroom Behavior

Our class rules are the same as the Pine Valley School rules. You can find them in the Pine Valley Handbook. We also have classroom safety rules during laboratory experiments. The most important rules are: BE SAFE and RESPECT OTHERS.

### Supplies

Bring these to class EVERY DAY:

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Binder Reminder                                     | Colored Pencils |
| Science Workbook                                    | Highlighter     |
| Science Binder with lined paper and all assignments | Calculator      |
| Pencil, blue or black pen                           | Red pen         |

### Tardies

If you come to class late, we are disrupted. You must be in your seat when the tardy bell rings. If you are not, you are considered tardy. A tardy results in a 15 minute detention; a second tardy is a 30 minute detention; a third tardy is a 45 minute detention and a parent notification. If you are tardy a fourth time, you will be referred to the office.

### Absent/Late Work

You will not receive credit for late work. Following an excused absence, you must complete all the work you missed within five days of 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. Check [www.pvms.schoolloop.com](http://www.pvms.schoolloop.com) and, if you need to, set up an appointment with Mrs. Irvin to make up what you missed.

### Extra Credit

Extra credit is offered throughout the year, usually as extended enrichment activities to be done outside the classroom. Take advantage of extra credit! It helps your grade, you'll learn more, and it's fun!

### Textbooks

You will be issued the Prentice Hall textbook "Focus on Earth Science". Keep this book at home to use for homework. Don't bring it to class. You are responsible if your book is lost or damaged, so treat it with respect.



-----detach here and return bottom part with signatures-----

Please sign below to acknowledge that you have read the Science Class Policy.

Student Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_