

6th Grade **Science** Syllabus

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Room 112

Welcome to sixth grade science! This course will consist of concepts from three science disciplines: earth science, physical science, and life science. The material we will cover is organized into sixth units. Beyond the science content of this course, the primary goal is to increase scientific literacy. Scientific literacy includes identifying and using scientific principles, engaging in scientific inquiry, and reflecting on social implication of scientific understanding. Instruction is aligned with the Michigan Science Standards, which are reflective of the Next Generation Science Standards. Much can be learned about these standards by clicking on the following links: [Michigan Science Standards](#), [Parent Guide](#), and [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Student's Role:

1. **R**espect each other: Treat all members of our learning community as well as classroom materials with respect.
2. **O**wn It: Take ownership of learning through honesty, effort, and a willingness to take risks.
3. **A**ct Responsibly: Act in a responsible manner by being prepared for class and maintaining focus on learning.
4. **R**each for Excellence: Set high expectations and work hard to reach them.

Science Units
Scientific Method and QPOEE
Structure and Properties of Matter
Earth's Systems
History of Earth
Ecosystems
Human Impact

Recommended Materials: Be prepared to bring these "High 5" materials with you every day, so you have the best opportunity to be successful in class!

1. 1 inch **BINDER**
2. 3 holed zippered **PENCIL POUCH** with: 2 (or more) sharpened **PENCILS**
1 blue or black ink pen
several different colored highlighters
3. **STUDENT PLANNER** (DPS will provide this for you)
4. **READING BOOK** (Choose one you ENJOY! :)
5. A **POSITIVE attitude!**

Throughout the year, I encourage you to bring materials from home for engineering projects, but **it is NOT necessary to purchase new or expensive supplies for our projects**. You should find everyday, household items (especially recyclables) to use for projects; milk cartons, rubber bands, straws, paper clips, old CDs/toys/etc. When bringing in

recycled materials, please do not bring containers that formerly contained nut products. Students will always be reminded to ask their parents' permission before gathering objects/supplies from home.

Google Classroom Our science class has a Google Classroom to establish good communication with you and your family. I plan to post updates about what we have been doing in science class, important dates/documents, and resources to this site. You will gain access to this classroom with a code based on the period you have science class each trimester. Additional information and resources may also be found at <http://roypride.weebly.com>.

Classroom Policies and Procedures

Entering Class As you enter the classroom, sharpen your pencil, if necessary, and sit in your assigned seat. Follow the directions on the board or sit quietly and wait for instructions. If you enter the classroom after the bell rings, you will receive a tardy. Three, or more tardies, will result in a lunch detention.

Leaving Class Classes are dismissed by the teacher and only after materials are put away, reminders for the next day have been given, and you have written your science homework inside your student planner. We always end class with a positive team mantra (BLUE), “**B**elieve, **L**earn, **U**nite, **E**xcel!” Believing in these words will benefit everyone here at our Middle School - especially YOU!

Late Work Unless arrangements with due dates for make-up work are made in advance, it is expected that you turn in your assignments ON TIME. If you are turning in homework beyond the assigned due date, pick up a "BUMMER" sheet and explain (in writing) the reason your assignment is arriving late. Staple this to your assignment and hand it in on our wooden shelf. (As an FYI, know that I believe LATE is better than not turning it in at all!) Also, papers turned in without a name will be considered late when they are claimed and re-submitted.

Assessment Retake Policy In order to be eligible for a retake on an assessment, you must pick up and fill out a "Mulligan," re-study that particular target/concept (look over your notes inside your binder and your review sheet) have a parent sign the bottom of your Mulligan sheet, and set up a time with Mrs. Roy to re-take the assessment. Just like in golf, this is a “second chance” to improve. It is provided for students that want the opportunity to show growth and understanding on a particular concept. Students must take the re-assessment within 7 school days after the original assessment has been returned. The score earned on the retake will be your new score on infinite campus. (If the score is lower, you will receive that lower score to reflect your understanding of the content.) No retakes will be scheduled during the last week of each trimester. If an individual abuses this retake policy, the opportunity to retake assessments may be revoked.

Grading and Infinite Campus graded for **understanding (75%)**; graded for **practice (25%)**; **ungraded - (0%)** Grades will be available for families online, via Infinite Campus. Scores earned will be weighted; 75% understanding and 25% graded for completion. A good weekly responsibility for your sixth grader is to check their updated grades and show parents/guardians the computer screen right then and there. When parents and students are aware of academic standings, there are no surprises.

Our grading scale is as follows:

A	93-100 %	C	73-76 %
A-	90-92 %	C-	70-72 %
B+	87-89 %	D+	67-69 %
B	83-86 %	D	63-66 %
B-	80-82 %	D-	60-62 %
C+	77-79 %	E	59 % & below

Hall Passes

Each student will be allowed 3 hall passes during science, per trimester. **Choose your exits wisely**, and know that your passes do not carry over to the next trimester, nor may they transfer to other students. Unless a student has an emergency, scientists may only leave the classroom during work time, (*not* during whole class discussion or activities) and only with teacher permission. Hall pass use is restricted to ensure that students are not missing important information while out of the classroom. This is an important procedure for me, as your presence in class is **CRITICAL** to your success. Leaving often will only cause confusion as you will miss important learning time. If you are a student who needs to leave the room more frequently because of medical conditions, please have your parent/guardian e-mail me (roy@dewittschools.net) and notify the school to have this information included in the school's confidential health report.

What can parents do to help their 6th grader?

Be interested and encourage your child.

Talk positively about school.

Look at your sixth grader's student planner to be sure they are filling it in and completing their responsibilities on time.

Together, agree on a quiet homework location for your 6th grader to study and complete assignments.

In the spirit of saving trees, paper, and energy . . . if you have online access, please go to <http://roypride.weebly.com>, click twice on the top tab titled "6th Grade Science." Click on the top link, 6th GRADE SCIENCE "SYLLABUS." Accessing this information serves to refresh your memory. For those students/families that do not have online access, I suggest that you keep this hard copy inside your science binder to reference.

Thank you for partnering with our staff to help make DeWitt Middle School a great place for learning!

Mrs. Roy