Eighth Grade Earth Science Syllabus 

Instructor: Mrs. Shirley

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***Name of Text: Earth Science -Prentice Hall*** *There is a CD of this text that you can check out and use. It has some interactive activities and sample test questions that are not in the textbook. You will need to return the CD at the end of the year.*

***Course Description:*** *The eighth grade science curriculum focuses on Earth Science concepts. Content covered in Earth Science includes: review of basic lab skills such as metric measurement and the scientific method, Graphing and interpretation of graphs, Astronomy, Geology, Weather, Space, Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, and Alternative Energies.*

***Expectations:***

1. *Respect and help one another.*
2. *You must be in your assigned seat by the time the bell rings. You must also remain seated until dismissed by Mrs. Shirley – not the bell. No one leaves the science classroom until all lab materials have been properly cleaned up and put away ---so, if everyone helps, we can leave on time.*
3. *Ask questions during class. The only stupid question is the one that you didn’t ask.*
4. *Always bring the following items to class with you* ***EVERYDAY****. –Textbook (with book cover) -Pencil /Pen -Notebook or loose-leaf paper - two pocket folder -CALCULATOR -Silent reading book*
5. *Labs are a major component of our science class. Students will be expected to follow all class and lab safety rules. Class participation, which means taking an active role in your learning and the learning of your classmates, is expected of all students****. At no times*** *will horse playing or off task behavior be tolerated. Lab safety violations will be dealt with severely and immediately. Misbehavior in lab could result in a zero on the lab, removal from the lab, and/or disciplinary referral!* ***Safety must come first!***
6. ***No cheating!!!!*** *There is a major difference between helping and cheating. In the science classroom help is encouraged; C3B4ME. (See three students before me) Cheating is not acceptable. If you are cheating, the following procedure will be implemented. You will receive a zero, you will call your parents and explain to them what you did, and you will receive a disciplinary referral.*
7. *Turn in* ***ALL assignments*** *on time. Homework is always due the next day during class. Lab work is due when we finish the lab. Late work equals lunch time with Mrs. Shirley and phone calls home made by you to your parents.*
8. *No gum, candy, or other food in the science lab.*
9. *If you are absent or miss class for a school related activity, it is your responsibility to make arrangements to complete labs and homework. Lab will be open before school, after school, and during homeroom..*
10. *Follow all school rules found in your Student Handbook.*

***Assessment/Grading Policy:*** *Students’ progress will be frequently assessed using the following methods:*

* *Tests 25 % of total grade*
* *Quizzes, labs, projects, and homework 75% of total grade*

*The 4-12 Grading Scale can be found in your student handbook.*

***Additional Information/Expectations:***

* *What can parents do to help their children succeed?*

*\*\*\*\*Encourage your child to take notes; they* ***will be allowed*** *to use them on* ***quizzes.***  *Help them to study for tests using the study guides provided by Mrs. Shirley. Check that they are working on the chapter vocabulary and quiz them on vocabulary terms.*

*\*\*\*\*Please use Skyward to check your child’s grades on a regular basis.*

***Students/parents/guardians should read and sign this syllabus. Then detach the bottom portion and return it to Mrs. Shirley.*** *This syllabus is to be used as a general guideline and is not a contract therefore; it may be changed as deemed necessary.*

*Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Email for contact purposes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*And/or*

*Phone and the best time to be reached for contact purposes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Anything special that you feel I need to know about your child that will help to make our year together more successful--\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*