

Course Content and Time Schedule

Earth, Physical, and Life Science

Quarter 1: Thermal Energy

Goal #1: To model the flow of water as it changes state through the hydrologic cycle and investigate the role of energy and gravity within Earth's systems. [MS-PS1-4, MS-ESS2-4]

Goal #2: To develop an understanding of the relationship between energy and temperature and to engineer a device that maximizes or minimizes thermal energy transfer. [MS-PS3-3, MS-PS3-4, MS-PS3-5, MS-ETS1-3, MS-ETS1-4]

Quarter 2: Weather and Climate

Goal #1: To explain how complex interactions of air masses, the unequal heating of the Earth's surface, and the rotation of the Earth cause patterns in meteorological phenomena affecting weather and climate. [MS-ESS2-5, MS-ESS2-6]

Quarter 3: Human Impact

Goal #1: To evaluate evidence of the natural processes and human activities which contribute to the rise of global temperatures. [MS-ESS3-5]

Goal #2: To analyze the impact humans have on the environment and design solutions that monitor and minimize the adverse effects. [MS-ESS3-3, MS-ETS1-1, MS-ETS1-2]

Quarter 4: Cells to Organisms and Body Systems/Information Processing

Goal #1: To provide evidence that living things are made of one or more specialized cells and model how the cell and its parts contribute to the function of the cell. [MS-LS1-1, MS-LS1-2]

Goal #2: To compare the genetic outcomes that result from asexual and sexual reproduction. [MS-LS3-2] Instruction in Science 6 is limited to the difference between asexual and sexual reproduction. This performance expectation is revisited in Science 8 with an emphasis on the transmission of traits and the interpretation of Punnett Squares.

Goal #3: To examine environmental and genetic factors as well as the behavioral and structural traits that influence the reproduction and growth of plants and animals. [MS-LS1-4, MS-LS1-5]

Goal #4: To develop a conceptual understanding of the hierarchical organization of organisms emphasizing the interdependence of body systems and their response to stimuli. [MS-LS1-3, MS-LS1-8]

Evaluation

- a. Criteria for student grades
 - i. Participation/contribution/attendance (citizenship)
 - ii. Homework/in-class assignments (30% of the quarter grade)
 - iii. Test/quizzes/labs/projects (70% of the quarter grade)
- b. Semester exams will be worth 20% of the SEMESTER grade
 - i. Semester exams will not be administered early. Students who are absent may make-up their exams on the district approved make-up day.
- c. Explanation of student grades
 - i. A 100 – 90%
 - ii. B 89 – 80%
 - iii. C 79 – 70%
 - iv. D 69 – 60%
 - v. F 59 and below
- d. How and when students will be advised of their grades
 - i. Parents and students are urged to check the Infinite Campus Portal for grades regularly.
- e. Late Work policy – Late work will not be accepted if two weeks has passed since the assignment was issued.
- f. Test retake policy – Tests with a grade of D or lower can be retaken.

II. Supplies needed for this course

- a. Paper, pencil, earbuds/headphones
 - b. We will also accept hand sanitizer, paper towels, Kleenex, small plastic bags, foil, cotton balls, bubble wrap, foam, and plastic containers, etc.
- III. Utilizing technology to learn - This year, at Leavitt, we want to encourage the daily use of technology in and out of the classroom to further enhance the educational experience. As such, Leavitt will be providing students with individual devices to utilize in class and at home. Students will also be provided with a Google email address to correspond with their teacher and classmates on projects, as well as to turn in assignments. Students may choose to utilize their own electronic tablets (iPads, Kindle Fire, Samsung, etc.) cell phones, laptops, and reading devices for educational purposes. Please be reminded that your student is responsible for the safety of their personal device and must utilize the district's Wifi to ensure their internet safety. All use of these devices will be for educational purposes and must be approved by the individual teacher.
- IV. Teacher's hours of availability – before school from 8:30-8:50 and after school from 3:21 – 3:40. This is subject to change.