

Bracken County Middle School
5th Grade Science
2008-2009 Course Syllabus

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Course Description

This science course is designed and organized to help students learn and use science skills and concepts. It is modeled to include the Kentucky Core Content for science and will encompass all three branches of science – Life, Earth, and Physical.

Comment

The main goal of this class is to strengthen students grasp of concepts and improve their ability to use scientific inquiry skills, such as observing , classifying, measuring, predicting, and analyzing. The students are given a variety of approaches to science topics -- reading, hands-on, small group, games etc., to develop a deeper understanding of the concepts and how to apply them. The students will also see how scientific concepts are inter-related between the three branches; such as, systems, change, form and function.

Course Standards

- Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry
- Diversity of life
- Survival, response, reproduction, life cycles
- Populations and ecosystems
- Properties and changes in matter
- Motion and forces
- Transfer of energy
- Structure of the Earth system – layers of Earth and atmosphere, weather
- Earth's History
- Earth in the solar system
- Natural Hazards

Method of Grade Calculation

Students will be evaluated on; including but not limited to; the following:

- Assignments
- Tests
- Projects
- Notebooks
- Open Response Questions

Textbook

Moyer, Hackett, teferi, LeRoy, Zike Vasquez, Terman, and Wheeler, *Science: A Closer Look*,McMillian/McGraw-Hill, New York,NY, 2008

Required Materials

- Spiral notebook
- Folder
- Pencils

Classroom Rules and Procedures

- Arrive prepared for class (notebook, textbook, pencil, assignment)
- Write assignments in agenda book
- Raise hand and be recognized before speaking out in class or getting out of your seat

Classroom Participation/ Attendance

Attendance is very important to all schoolwork. Much of our work is explained and practiced in class. We often do experiments or investigations in class that cannot be duplicated outside of the classroom.

Only students with excused absences will be given grades on make-up work.

Assignments not completed on time will be accepted no later than the following day.

Course Content

- **Unit A** – Chapters 1 & 2 **Diversity of Life**
- **Unit B** – Chapters 3 & 4 **Ecosystems**
- **Unit C** - Chapters 5 & 6 **Earth and Its Resources**
- **Unit D** - Chapters 7 & 8 **Weather and Space**
- **Unit E** - Chapters 9-10 **Matter**
- **Unit F** - Chapters 11-12 **Forces and Energy**