



Success in Science

Welcome to Science Class,

I am looking forward to helping you have a successful year. I thought it would be helpful if I could give you some tips to success in Middle School Science.

Assume that everything is counted. During class, you may be working on assignments and projects. These are often to be put in your portfolio, in your lab book or to be used in a group project. You have worked hard, treat your work with the respect it deserves and plan on it being “counted.”

Always write your name on your paper. There are times when your paper may fall on the floor, get misplaced or get collected by another student. It would be a shame for you to lose points for turning in a “no-name” assignment.

Get right to work when class starts. Each term the daily assignments that you do at the beginning of class will be added up and counted as one quiz grade. They are kept in a lab book that does not leave the classroom. The assignment is worth 2 points per day. This can add up to an easy, extra, 100% quiz grade. It can also lower your grade for the term if you consistently do not complete the assignment.

Portfolios are important for a few reasons. The most important is that they are a great study tool in preparing for the tests. They also count for a grade. Pick a “Portfolio buddy” that you can call or e-mail the night before they are due. You can check if you have all the right materials. It works much better if you check with your portfolio buddy on a regular basis to make sure you aren't missing work. Make use of class time that is given specifically to check your portfolio.

Science Lab projects can be interesting and busy. **Do not forget to turn your lab work in.** Since class is a little less structured during a lab and you are working in a group, it is easy to forget to turn in the “paperwork.” Labs cannot be made up, so if you do not turn anything in, it is a zero. *Always assume that each student in the lab group needs to turn in an assignment.* I will tell you if you

may turn in something as a group. If you have an excused absence an alternative assignment will be given to take the place of lab.

The Science classroom has a book of procedures for Science class. This is a reference that will help you to remember how to do things in science class. If you forget how to follow a procedure you will get a warning and I will ask you to refer to the procedure book. If you forget again, you will need to copy the procedure from the book. The third time you become forgetful, you will get a conduct warning.

SCIENCE CLASS RULES

1. Follow Directions
2. Respect Fellow Classmates
3. Respect Other People's Property
4. Raise Your Hand And Wait To Be Called On
5. Always Do Your Best

I have read and understand these rules _____