Earth Science Syllabus

Earth science is the study of Earth and its place in space. Earth science is divided into four specific areas: geology, meteorology, astronomy, and oceanography.

This is a required course for all eighth graders. During this course you will be required to complete daily assignments, projects, quizzes, labs and tests.

Book

Each student will be assigned a book.
These books are not new and we want to keep them in the best condition we can.

Supplies

notebook
pencils – NO PENS
folder

Grading

I believe that your grade should not depend on how bright the members of your class are, or how hard they work in the course. I am using my professional judgment to set the standards that must be met: the class itself should not set the standards. Your grade should reflect your performance, no one else's, with respect to the subject matter in earth science. If you are in a class with high achievers, you should not suffer for it nor should you profit by finding yourself among classmates that are poorly prepared or choose not to do the work. I do not want you to feel that you are competing with your classmates, but yourself. Learning should be cooperative, at least part of the time. I do not want to discourage you from helping each other, not copying or giving someone the answers but actually helping your classmates by forming study groups. I use the grading scale listed below. With this scale, the student will know how he or she did on each test, assignment, quiz, or project.

*Straight Percentage

95-100 = A	77-79 = C+
90-94 = A-	74-76 = C
87-89 = B+	70-73 = C-
84-86 = B	67-69 = D+
80-83 = B-	64-66 = D
	60-63 = D-
	59 and under = F

#1 RULE
I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE ASSIGNMENTS, YOU WILL EARN A ZERO.

Topics Covered in Earth Science

September	Scientific Method
	Types of Observations
	Steps involved in the Scientific Method
October	Topographic Maps
	What are They?
	Contour Lines
	Contour Intervals
	Minerals
	Characteristics
	Identifying Minerals
Oct-Nov	Rocks
	Rock Cycle
	Characteristics
	Types of Rocks
	Identifying Rocks
December	Plate Tectonics
	Structure of Earth's Crust
	Continental Drift
January	Earthquakes
	Volcano
	Major project required, must create volcano and meet requirements
February	Earth
	Characteristics
	Interior and Atmosphere
	Moon
	Characteristics
	Sun
	Characteristics
March	Space
	History
	Planets
	Characteristics of each Planet
	Order of Planets
	Stars
	Constellations
April	Weather and Climate
May	Energy
	Natural Resources
	Fossil Fuels
	Oceanography
	Oceans
	Currents

Time Schedule Subject to Change WITHOUT Warning