

GRADE 7 SCIENCE

COURSE OVERVIEW & EXPECTATIONS

MRS. JORDAN
B.F. BUTLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

CURRICULUM

Welcome to 7th grade Science at B.F. Butler Middle School! The 7th grade science curriculum focuses on several disciplines of science. Specifically, students will explore content in Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science in three major units:

1. **Populations and Ecosystems** (Life Science)
2. **Water and Weather** (Earth Science)
3. **Electromagnetic Force, Gravity, & Kinetic Energy** (Physical Science)

Throughout the year, students will be reviewing, learning, and practicing science process skills and habits of mind through participation in various lessons, activities, and investigations. Students will also engage in scientific communication by recording observations and analysis in a lab notebook, completing science-based summaries, and reading various scientific texts. By the end of the course, students should have a solid understanding of science content, be able to think like scientists, and be prepared to build on their knowledge in 8th grade science.

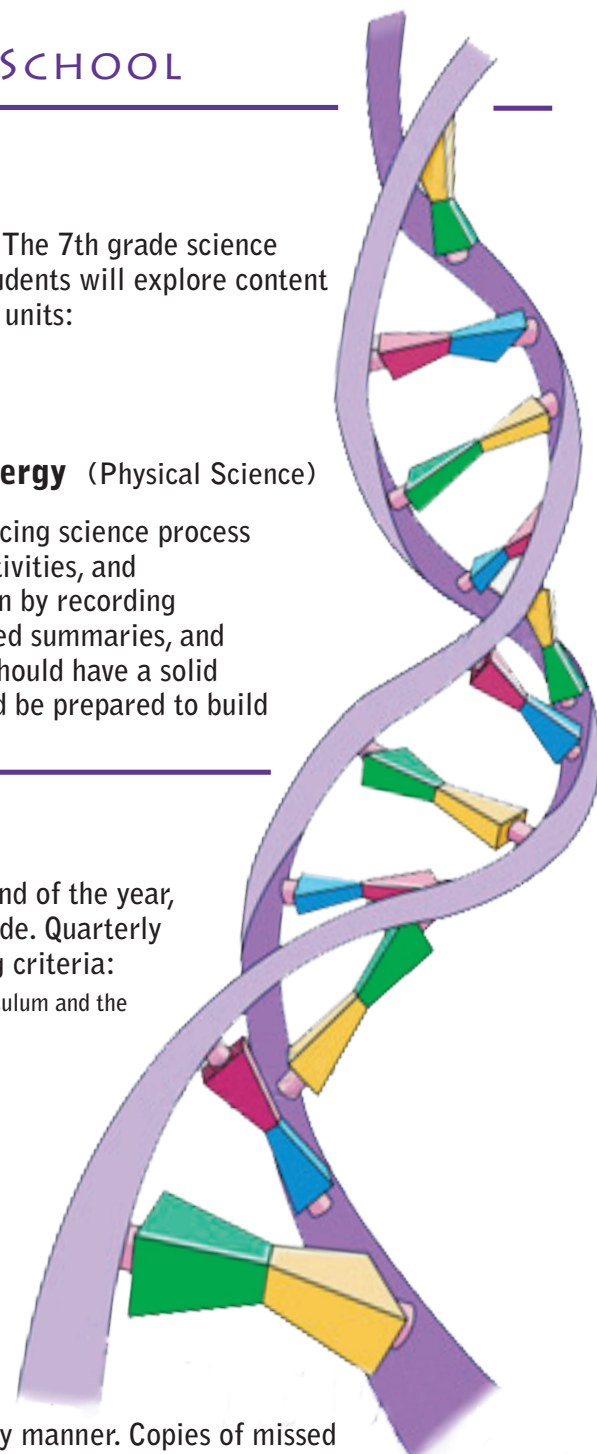
GRADING POLICY

Students receive a grade for each of four marking periods. At the end of the year, these four grades are averaged together to create a final course grade. Quarterly grades for Grade 7 Science are computed according to the following criteria:

(Please Note: Percentage weights will vary slightly, pending roll-out of the new curriculum and the emphasis of each quarter's work.)

Lab Assignments/Notebook	40%
Assessments (Tests, Quizzes, etc.)	25%
Classwork	10%
Homework	10%
Writing Assignments/Projects	5%
Science Dictionary/Binder	5%
Preparation/Participation	5%

The number of and type of assignments varies by unit. Typically, homework is assigned Monday through Thursday. If absent, students are responsible for obtaining and completing missed work in a timely manner. Copies of missed work will be available in designated bins in the science room. If a student misses a hands-on investigation, he/she may need to stay after school to make up the labwork. It is important for all students to keep current with their science work; late or missing work can be completed for partial credit up until the date of the assessment for that content. Additionally, students may revise/redo assignments for a revised grade prior to the assessment for that content. Please contact me with any questions or concerns about your child's progress in science.



EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS

With a positive attitude and consistent effort, each 7th grade student can and will be successful in science this year. Expectations for students are listed below. In addition, students are expected to adhere to all regulations in the Lowell Public Schools Student Handbook.

BE RESPECTFUL

- keep classroom and work area neat, clean, and damage-free
- raise hand and wait to be acknowledged before speaking or acting
- stay in your seat unless given permission to get up
- use materials for their intended purpose only
- keep yourself and your materials in your own space
- use appropriate voice level for each activity
- speak to adults/students with respectful language, using a polite tone and courteous body language
- respond when spoken to or questioned by an adult
- listen silently when others are talking



BE RESPONSIBLE

- bring required materials to class every day
- be on time and ready to work
- sit up straight in assigned seat with feet under desk
- follow all classroom procedures
- stay on-task during independent and/or group work
- return all borrowed materials
- collect and complete missed classwork and homework when absent from class
- self-check your work for accuracy and completeness before handing it in
- turn in work that is original, neat, legible, and on time
- revise or redo work when necessary
- seek help when needed

BE SAFE

- keep hands and feet to self and keep walkways clear
- use materials and equipment for intended purposes only
- keep chairs and desks flat on floor
- follow classroom and school procedures for fire/lockdown drills
- sign out and sign in when given permission to leave the room

MATERIALS

Any donations of tissue, paper towel, wipes, or hand sanitizer are greatly appreciated!

Students will need the following materials for 7th grade Science:

- 1.5" or 2" three-ring binder with 6 tab divider sheets *binder provided by school, if needed*
- 50-100 sheets white lined paper
- two 100-page composition notebooks *may need two more later in school year*
- 4+ regular-sized gluesticks *can be purchased from Mrs. Jordan throughout year for \$0.25/stick*
- pencils with erasers
- colored pencils (to be left/used at home)
- Internet access to use FOSSWeb science site *if no internet, print materials will be provided*

CONTACT INFORMATION



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