**Miss Peterson’s Earth Science Class**

**Class Rules**

Rules and procedures are a part of everything we do. You will be expected to follow rules and procedures throughout your life, at your house, at school, at work, at play. This class has rules and procedures to ensure a safe, positive learning environment for everyone.

* No eating or drinking in the classroom – this includes gum and candy
* No electronics (phones, music players, etc.)
* Do not throw/toss/pitch/lob/propel anything, ever
* Keep your hands, feet, objects, and negative comments to yourself
* Be on task – no sleeping, doing work for other classes, etc.
* No applying of makeup, fingernail polish, perfume/body spray, lotion, etc.
* No cursing

**Consequences**

Everything we do in life has consequences. Consequences are the things that happen to you when you make a choice. This is what will happen if you choose to violate one of the class rules.

1. Warning
2. Short conference in the hallway
3. ISS

Severe infractions – ISS

**Additional Class Expectations and Policies**

**Preparation** Come to class ready to learn and ready to participate, with all needed materials

Complete all assignments

**Respect** Yourself, Your Peers, School Personnel, the School

Your Belongings, Others’ Belongings, School Property

**Integrity** Cheating and Plagiarism will not be tolerated

**Entering the** If you are not inside the classroom when the bell rings, you are tardy – get a tardy slip **Classroom** Enter the classroom quietly, no running or pushing

Get to your seat and do warm up and/or be ready to start class

Backpacks, book bags, purses, etc. must be on you or your chair – **not on the floor**

**Breaks** Breaks are at a given time, and students will NOT be allowed out of class at any other time except for  
 emergencies.

Students will not be allowed to go to another class **for any reason**

**Assignments** Assignments must be completely correct before full credit is given. You are encouraged to redo incorrect   
answers until they are correct.

**End of Class** I dismiss class, not the bell

No one will be released from class until the room is clean and neat, including the textbooks, and everyone is sitting quietly in their seats – do not line up at the door!

**Lab Rules**

* SAFETY FIRST!
* Be neat, Be careful, Be prepared
* Follow all instructions carefully
* Ask questions if you don’t understand or don’t know what to do
* Report any accidents immediately, no matter how small or insignificant
* Additional rules and procedures may apply to various labs and will be explained at that time

**Consequences for Breaking Lab Rules**

1. Immediate removal from lab activity and loss of credit for the lab
2. Alternative assignment may be given
3. Severe safety infractions could result in not being allowed to participate in subsequent labs

**Earth Science**

**Course Overview**

Earth Science is the study of the Earth and the universe around it. The Big Ideas in Earth Science are:

1. Earth is part of the solar system, the Milky Way galaxy, and the universe (ESS1-HS-1, ESS1-HS-2, ESS1-HS-3,   
   ESS1-HS-4, ESS1-HS-5, ESS1-HS-6)

* The universe began with the Big Bang 13.8 billion years ago
* Earth and the solar system coalesced out of a nebula 4.6 billion years ago

1. The Earth is a system of systems (ESS2-HS-1, ESS2-HS-2, ESS2-HS-3, ESS2-HS-4, ESS2-HS-5, ESS3-HS-6. ESS2-HS-7)

* The Earth is a complex system made up the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere

1. The flow of energy drives the cycling of matter (ESS1-HS-1, ESS1-HS-3, ESS1-HS-5, ESS2-HS-1, ESS2-HS-3, ESS2-HS-4, ESS3-HS-5)

* Energy from the Sun drives atmospheric processes
* Energy from within the Earth drives plate tectonics

1. Life, including human life, influences and is influenced by the Earth’s environment (ESS2-HS-7, ESS3-HS-1,   
   ESS3-HS-2, ESS3-HS-3, ESS3-HS-4, ESS3-HS-5, ESS3-HS-6)

* Life evolves on a dynamic Earth and continuously modifies Earth
* Earth is continually changing
* Humans depend on the Earth for resources
* Humans significantly alter the Earth
* Natural hazards pose risks to humans

1. To understand space and time, models and maps are necessary (ESS1-HS-1, ESS1-HS-2, ESS1-HS-4, ESS2-HS-1,   
   ESS2-HS-3, ESS2-HS-6, ESS3-HS-6)

* Models help to understand aspects that are too large or too small for direct observation
* Models help to understand aspects that are very complex

1. Earth scientists use repeatable observations and testable ideas to understand and explain our planet

Discussion of Evolution

Earth Science topics include geologic time and the evolution of Earth’s systems and living things

If parents do not want students to take part in these discussions, parents need to let us know

Movies

Some contemporary movies, like those on the following list, may be shown so that students will have a visual reference for their studies of Earth Science. Some of the movies shown in class have a rating of PG-13. PG-13 ratings most often mean that strong language is used by characters in the movies

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject Covered | Movie | Distributor | Rating |
| Geologic Time, Dinosaurs, Cloning | Jurassic Park | Universal | PG-13 |
| Earthquakes, Tsunamis | 2012 | Columbia Pictures | PG-13 |
| Climate Change, Weather | The Day After Tomorrow | 20th Century Fox | PG-13 |

**Required Materials**

You will need to have these materials every day

* A 3-ring binder, spiral notebook, or pocket folder
* Lined notebook paper
* Pencil (preferred) or pen

**Textbook**

Textbooks are supplied by the school.

Because there is a limited supply, students **may not** take textbooks out of the classroom without permission.

**Grading Policy**

Assignments, notes, activities 50% of the grade

Tests and Quizzes 50% of the grade

**Earth Science**

**Parent/Guardian and Student Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge receipt of the syllabus for the COSSA Science program. I have read and I understand the class rules and expectations. I agree to follow the above Rules and Procedures. I understand that because evolution is an important part of Earth Science it will be discussed and that contemporary movies may be watched, and I give permission for my student to participate in those activities.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Student Name Printed |  | Parent/Guardian Name Printed |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Student Signature |  | Parent/Guardian Signature |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Date |  | Date |
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|  |  | When and how would it be best to contact you? |
|  |  | When? |
|  |  | Phone? |
|  |  | Email? |
|  |  | Other? |

Both student and a parent/guardian must sign.

Return this form to the science instructor at the COSSA Professional-Technical Education Center.

If you have any questions, please contact Miss Peterson at 208-482-6074 or petersonr@cossaschools.org