**Miss Peterson’s General 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

**General Science**

**Course Overview**

This is an Integrated Science course that combines chemical, biological, physical, and earth and space science concepts. The acquisition of general scientific literacy by every citizen is a necessary for successful living in modern times. Science education at Middle School level serves as the foundation upon which higher levels of science education can build. This course uses a variety of techniques to introduce, stimulate, explore, and reinforce major scientific concepts, theories, principles, and skills.

Unit 1 A Balanced Biosphere – How have natural processes and human activities created the ecosystems we see today?

Standards: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-2, MS-LS2-3, MS-ESS2-3, MS-ESS3-1, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.1, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.7, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.9, ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1, ELA-Literacy.SL.8.4, ELA-Literacy.SL.8.5, MATH.MP.2, MATH.MP.4

Unit 2 Matter Matters– How can models of matter help us understand the resources we use?

Standards: MS-LS2-1, MS-ESS3-1, MS-PS1-1, MS-PS1-4, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.1, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.7, Literacy.WHST.6-8.9, MATH.MP.2, MATH.MP.4

Unit 3 Mimicking Nature’s Design – How does energy and matter flow within natural and designed systems?

Standards: MS-LS1-6, MS-LS1-7, MS-ESS2-1, MS-PS1-2, MS-PS1-5, MS-PS1-6, MS-ETS1-3, MS-ETS1-4, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.1, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.2, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.3, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.7, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.9, ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.2, ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.9, ELA-Literacy.SL.8.5, MATH.MP.2, MATH.MP.4

Unit 4 Save the Andes! - How can we sustain biodiversity in a modern, changing world?

Standards: MS-ESS2-2, MS-ESS3-2, MS-LS2-4, MS-PS1-3, MS-LS2-5, MS-ETS1-1, MS-ETS1-2, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.1, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.7, ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.9, ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.1, ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.7, ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.8, ELA-Literacy.SL.8.5, ELA-Literacy.RI.8.8, Math.MP.2

Discussion of Evolution

Science topics include evolution.

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 Life Science. Movies shown in class will not have a rating higher than PG-13.   
PG-13 ratings most often mean that strong language is used in the movie

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject Covered | Movie | Distributor | Rating |
| Geologic Time, Dinosaurs, Cloning | Jurassic Park | Universal | PG-13 |
| Earthquakes | San Andreas | Warner Bros. | PG-13 |
| Ecology | Avatar | 20th Century Fox | PG-13 |

**Required Materials**

You will need to have these materials every day

* Science notebook
* Pocket folder
* 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

**General 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 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 |
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| Student Signature |  | Parent/Guardian Signature |
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| Date |  | Date |
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|  |  | If I need to contact you, |
|  |  | how and when 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