



Lanier Middle School Syllabus for 8th grade Science

2600 Woodhead St | Houston, Texas 77098 | 713-942-1900

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to Lanier MS and a wonderful year of learning for your child. During this academic year your child/ children will encounter a vast array of experiences to enhance their educational growth and well-being. Here at Lanier MS, they will be nurtured and cared for to ensure that their individual needs are met and considered.

During the 2020-2021 school year, your child's science class will open pathways to explore their world in different perspectives. Students will learn to become analytical thinkers as well as critical thinkers and apply previous knowledge to solve problems. They will also begin to enhance their skills of prediction to look in depth to future problems and ways to change unfavorable trends in the environment and their surroundings.

Course Objectives

1. Students will master basic chemistry concepts including atomic structure, the periodic table, and describing chemical reactions.
2. Students will master basic physics concepts including motion, force, and Newton's Laws.
3. Students will master basic Earth/space science concepts including plate tectonics, weathering and erosion, the energy of weather and climate, the solar system and the universe.
4. Students will master life science concepts including relationships within ecosystems and influence of external factors on ecosystems.
5. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the applications of science and technology in everyday life.
6. Students will become more fluent in the scientific process.

Supply List

- Consult with your individual science teacher for their supply list.
- **Please do NOT purchase supplies until we return to in-person instruction.** (There is a possibility schedules will change when we begin in-person instruction, and you may not have the same teachers.)

Resources

- Students will be expected to know how to access and use Microsoft Teams and the HISD Hub to participate in classes and complete assignments.
- This year, we will be using OneNote Class Notebook to build a virtual Interactive Student Notebook (ISN) on the Hub. It will be critical that you keep up with your virtual ISN because in addition to notes and reference materials, it will also include graded assignments.

Attendance, Make-Up Work, and Late Work

- Please refer to the school policies for these topics in the Lanier MS 2020-2021 Student and Family Handbook.

Grades

- Please refer to the Lanier MS 2020-2021 Student and Family Handbook for clarification on campus grading policies and an explanation of the grading categories listed below.
 - Tests & Projects 40%
 - Quizzes 15%
 - Class work 35%
 - Homework 10%

Corrections Policy

- The Science Department has a policy that students may complete corrections for Homework, Class Work, and Quizzes if they made below a 70 on the original assignment.
- Corrections are due to the teacher by the start of the 2nd class after the student's graded assignment is returned to them.
- Students can earn up to a 70 for completing corrections, but they MUST follow ALL instructions for completing corrections to earn credit.
- Please see the separate Corrections Policy and Instructions document for more information.

Re-Test Policy

- Students may complete a re-test for any graded test if they earn below a 70 on the test.
- The re-test will be over the same objectives (TEKS), but it will have different questions.
- Students will be informed of when and how to sign up to take the re-test once we have completed Common Assessment 1 which is currently scheduled for October 13th and 14th.

8th Grade Science & IPC Team: Teacher Contact Information

- Mr. Scott: CScott5@houstonisd.org
- Ms. Bano: NBano@houstonisd.org
- Ms. DeMott: Christina.DeMott@houstonisd.org

The Lanier MS 8th Grade Science & IPC Team welcomes all of our new students, and we look forward to an outstanding and unique 2020-2021 school year!

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education." -Martin Luther King Jr.