

Welcome!

Hello class! My name is Miss Cassidy, and I'm so excited to have you in my science class this year! I think science can be a lot of fun, and I plan on sharing that fun with you this year. Sometimes students don't believe me when I tell them that science can be fun, so maybe I'll have to convince you too... Do you think you can drop an egg from the top of a building without breaking it? Do you think you can grow a plant from a seed and a few weeks later have a meal from what you've grown? Do you think you can pick up a rock outside and tell me how it was made? Maybe you can't do all of those things just yet, but by the end of this class you will be able to, and you'll know a whole lot of other cool things too!

In order to get everything done that I have planned this year, we need some classroom rules and procedures to be sure that everything runs smoothly. We'll go over these in class and practice them all throughout the year, but I would also like you to go over the next few papers with your parents or guardians at home so that we all know what's expected in this class. Once everyone has read the packet, you and your parent or guardian should sign the last page just like I've done.

If you have any questions about the packet, please ask me anytime, I'm happy to help!

Classroom policies:

1. Be respectful... This includes your teacher, your classmates, your supplies, and yourself.
2. Be observant... Listening and following directions are important in this classroom.
3. Be prepared... Arrive to class with your necessary supplies and completed homework.
4. Be positive... Happiness is contagious and you don't want a cranky teacher!

Consequences for violation of policies:

1. Immediate non-verbal or verbal warning and reminder of class policies.
2. Completion of "Refocus sheet" in back of classroom.
3. Short meeting with student after class.
4. Call home to guardian.
5. Office referral.

Consequences for good behavior *(This list may be refined and supplemented according to student suggestions, and goes in no particular order):*

Candy/snacks - praise ticket - positive call home - free time - music time - choose your seat for the day - choose from prize box - popcorn and a movie - class outside - game time

Attendance policy:

- Students should be in the classroom and working on daily bell work when the bell rings.
- Parent or guardian contact will occur if tardies and absences become regular occurrences.
- If absent, students should look in the absent work file to find make-up work.
 - For each class day missed, you will have 1 class day to make up your work (For extenuating circumstances such as a death in the family, the teacher will make adjustments as she sees fit).
 - If you know you'll be out of class for an extended period of time, contact me at least a week ahead of time and I will get you your work early.

Late work policies:

- Work will be accepted no more than 5 class days late.
- For each day that an assignment is late, 10 percent of the final grade will be deducted.

Academic integrity:

- Cheating will not be tolerated in this classroom, neither will plagiarism.
 - To plagiarize is to use the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own words or ideas. This includes copying the answers that another student generated.

Science Lab Safety Rules

- Lab procedures and safety information must be read and understood before performing any experimentation
- Follow all written and verbal directions given to you by the instructor
- Eating, drinking, gum chewing, applying cosmetics, manipulating contact lenses, and other unsafe activities are not permitted in the lab
- Removing chemicals or equipment from the lab is prohibited unless authorized by the instructor
- Safety goggles and any other necessary protective equipment should be worn at all times in the lab unless otherwise specified by the instructor
- Report any accidents, injuries, spills, or glass breaks to the instructor immediately
- Dress appropriately for the lab (long hair tied back or tucked into collar, closed-toed shoes, no dangling jewelry, no excessively baggy clothes, etc.)
- Know the location of all safety equipment in the room, such as the safety shower, eye wash station, fire extinguisher, etc.)
- Use laboratory equipment only as intended and for no other purpose
- Follow the instructor's directions for disposing of any chemicals used in the lab
- Absolutely no "horseplay" or "messing around" will be tolerated in the lab
- When you are finished with your experiment, clean up your lab station and leave it exactly as you found it, or in better condition

Southside Middle School of Muncie Indiana

Miss Cassidy Richard

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Dear Parent/guardian,

I am privileged to have your child my 8th grade Science classroom this school year, and I look forward to seeing them grow not only in their knowledge of science but also as the young people that they are. In my class, students will be learning a little bit about all of the main sciences like Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, and Earth and Space Science. I anticipate having a lot of fun in my class though it will require plenty of hard work.

A main component of my class will be doing experiments in the science lab which can be dangerous if students don't properly follow instructions. In the interest of the safety of everyone in the class, I've attached to this letter the rules that all students must follow and that all parents must be aware of. If you would please read through the rules with your student to ensure clarity and understanding, and have your student return the signed agreement to me within a week.

Kind regards,

Miss Cassidy Richard

If the student has any allergies, please list them below:

By signing below, all parties acknowledge that they have read and understood the above contract.

Name of student _____

Signature of student: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent: _____ Date: _____

Signature of teacher: _____ Date: _____