



Sixth Grade Instructional Plan for Science: First Semester

Course Overview-Science

Sixth Grade Science in Texas is an introduction to many areas of science, including life science, earth science, chemistry, and physics. Students will begin learning how to ask questions, think like scientists, and solve problems. The lessons follow the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and focus on helping students understand important science ideas. Students will take part in fun, hands-on experiments, STEM activities, and explore how science is used in the real world. They will practice using evidence to explain what they learn and discover how science is part of everyday life.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Hands-On Investigations: frequent TEKS-aligned labs
- Interactive Notebooks: Used for vocabulary, diagrams, notes, and reflections
- Modeling & Simulations: Digital and physical models to support abstract concepts
- Collaborative Learning: Group activities, peer discussion, and cooperative lab work
- STEM Challenges: Engineering design activities tied to real-world problems
- Spiraling Review: Reinforcement of previously taught standards across the year

Contact Information

Teacher Name: Azucena Sierra

Email: azucena.sierra@midlandisd.net

Phone: (432)240-7600

Classroom Expectations

Our classroom is a safe learning place, which encourages teamwork, positive feedback, and academic achievement. All students will be respectful to others. We will be good listeners to the teacher and to other's ideas. All students will be hard working contributors in the process of getting their education in order to be successful and reach their full potential.

Expectation 1: Be prepared with supplies

- Prioritize attendance
- Be ready to learn everyday

Expectation 2: Participate actively and take responsibility for your learning

- Complete all assigned tasks
- Engage in class discussions, writing tasks, labs, and learning opportunities
- Complete work on time

Expectation 3: Be safe

- Handle lab equipment and materials with care
- Walk at all times
- Report problems to an adult
- Use technology appropriately

Expectation 4: Be Respectful

- Use kind and appropriate language
- Listen actively when others are speaking
- Respect school property and others belongings



Sixth Grade Instructional Plan for Science: First Semester

Positive reinforcement and clear routines will help students learn and meet these expectations. If expectations are not met, the teacher will first reteach and remind the student(s) of expectations. If a student continues to fail to meet expectations, they will be redirected, then parents will be contacted. If a student is unable to meet expectations after these preventative measures, an office referral will be made.

Attendance Policy & Its Importance

Regular attendance is vital to your child's academic development. When students attend daily, they stay current with new skills, deepening their knowledge of the world, develop thinking skills, and practice important habits that support lifelong learning.

Please notify the school if your child will be absent. Frequent or extended absences may make it more difficult for your child to learn necessary foundational skills that ensure student success this year and in future school years.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the first semester, students will be able to:

Using SAVVAS, students will develop science knowledge such as:

- Lab Safety and Scientific Method
- Properties of matter
- Identifying chemical changes
- Types/measuring forces
- Different types of Energy
- Earth-Sun-Moon System

Course Resources

- Chromebook (provided by Midland ISD)
- Journals and writing utensils (part of the school supply list)
- SAVVAS

Grading Policy

According to Midland ISD Grading Policy:

The summative evaluation of a student's grade during a recording period should be based on sufficient data collected in class in the form of various assessments. Regular and periodic assessment of student progress ensures a student has ample time for remediation. Grades are based on:

- Classwork
- Quizzes and tests
- Labs
- Participation in discussions
- Projects

Major assignments - 60% Minor assignments - 40%



Sixth Grade Instructional Plan for Science: First Semester

Grading Scale (as per Midland ISD):

- A: 90–100
- B: 80–89
- C: 70–79
- F: Below 70

Parent-Teacher Communication: ClassDojo

Our school uses **ClassDojo** for parent communication. Please join our class to receive important announcements, and updates. Instructions for joining will be sent home during the first week of school.

Behavior Monitoring: PBIS App

In our class, we use the PBIS Rewards app to recognize positive behavior and academic effort. Students can earn points for meeting expectations such as being prepared, participating, showing respect, and working hard. Points can be redeemed for rewards and privileges. This system helps us build a positive classroom culture where everyone feels encouraged to do their best.

Major and minor office referrals for negative behavior will be documented through this app as well. Any communication about behavior issues will be communicated through class DoJo.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning!

Please fill out the portion below and return this portion to your teacher.

We acknowledge that we have read and that we understand the expectations in 6th Grade Science. We agree to contact the teacher should we have any questions or concerns regarding this instructional plan.

Parent Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Parent Signature : _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____