

## Ms. Howard's 5th Grade Science/SS Syllabus Fall Semester

Welcome to 5th Grade Science and Social Studies! Below are the following procedures and information that you and your child need to know for both Science and Social Studies courses. Please hang onto this sheet, as it has ALL the information needed for what your child will be learning throughout this semester.

### Classroom Expectations

- Come to class prepared
- Be Safe and follow safety guidelines
- Be Respectful to others around you
- Be Responsible
- Come ready to learn

### Curriculum and TEKS

Fifth Grade Science is designed to spark curiosity and promote scientific thinking through hands-on investigation, inquiry-based learning, STEM, and observation of the world around us. Students will explore key scientific concepts across physical, earth, and life sciences, while engaging in the practices of scientists—asking questions, making predictions, collecting data, and drawing evidence-based conclusions. Instruction will be aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and will support all learners in mastering grade-level expectations.

In Social Studies students will learn about the history of the United States. During this first semester, we will focus on Geography of the United States, the American Revolution, and the Constitution. We will be using primary and secondary sources to learn about these units!

Throughout the semester (Science):

- Scientific method
- Properties of Matter- 5.6A
- Mixtures and Solutions- 5.6B, 5.6C
- Force and Motion- 5.7A, 5.7B
- Energy Transformations- 5.8B, 5.8C
- Light energy- 5.8C
- Earth's rotation-5.9A
- Earth's changes- 5.10B, 5.10C

Throughout the semester (Social Studies):

- Unit 1: Geography of United States- 5.6A, 5.7A, 5.7C
- Unit 2: Colonial America- 5.8A, 5.12A, 5.12B

- Unit 3: American Revolution- 5.2A, 5.2B
- Unit 4: Constitution and Government- 5.14B, 5.14C

### Spot Binder

Students will utilize a Bowie “Spot” binder to transport important papers, data, and announcements to and from school. Parents will be able to check their binder frequently to stay informed about student progress and academics.

### Consequences

Your teachers work hard to create a safe learning environment for all students. We have so much to learn this year. In order to keep the class running efficiently, we expect you to follow our class guidelines and stay with the lesson at all times. If you struggle to remain on task, the following outlines how we handle disruptions or off-task behaviors.

1st offense: The teacher will remind you of the expectations

2nd offense: redirected, teacher-student conversation, and possibly removed from the situation

3rd offense: parent contact + lunch detention

4th offense: office referral

\*Extreme behaviors such as violence and physical fighting will result in automatic office referral and parent contact with no warning.

### Homework

Vocabulary words will go home every other week, starting week 2. Vocabulary words will go home on Mondays and they can also be found on google classroom. Attached to the vocabulary sheets that go home will be a homework assignment that will be due that Friday. Therefore, students have all week to complete it and turn it in. Homework will include vocabulary review and well as a few questions over the TEK we are learning about. This is to help the students get ready for the science STAAR test.

### Grades

Minor Grades 60% (daily work, homework)

Major Grades 40% (assessments, science labs)

Grades will be taken 1-2 times per week. We do not offer extra credit, so it is necessary to always give your best effort and ask for help when you do not understand.

### Corrections

If you score below a 70, you are eligible to correct that assignment within 3 school days to receive credit back up to a 70.

Please see the additional paper for exact procedures. Failure to follow procedures will result in your paper being returned or losing your chance to correct.

### Missing/Late Work

Ten points will be deducted each day that an assignment is late. Be sure to put your name on your paper so that it is not counted as missing/late work. Multiple no-name papers will result in 5 points being deducted.

Frequent missing work and failure to complete and turn in assignments will result in a working lunch during lunch detention.

### Absent Work

You have the number of school days you were absent to complete missing assignments. For example, if you had strep throat for 3 school days, you will have 3 school days when you return to make up the assignments. It is your responsibility to check each teacher's absent work system to get your work. If you are leaving to go on vacation, you will receive your absent work when you return to school.

### Daily Supplies

Each day, you will need to make sure you bring your zip-up binder with all necessary papers for each class, a pencil bag with supplies, a library book, earbuds, etc. You will not be allowed to go back and forth to your locker during the day.

### Chromebooks

It is your responsibility to plug in your Chromebook to the cart each afternoon. We will facilitate this process before going to lockers. In the rare event that you need to take your Chromebook home for any reason, please let us know so that we can send home a charger with you. You must bring it back the next day, as we use Chromebooks daily. Otherwise, Chromebooks will stay at school overnight.

### Communication

Class Dojo - Parents: We use Class Dojo as our school-wide and grade-level communication tool. We send mass messages frequently. It is important that you have the app, are connected, and notifications turned on so that you do not miss important information. If you are having trouble connecting, please let us know so we can help get you connected!

Email: Even though ClassDojo is the best way to get in touch with me, you may also email me at [taylor.howard@midlandisd.net](mailto:taylor.howard@midlandisd.net)

\*Please sign and return this page to Ms. Howard.

I have read and understand the 5th-grade Science/Social Studies syllabus. We agree to work hard to follow these expectations so that I can grow my knowledge of Science and Social Studies (U.S. History).

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_