



Welcome to General Science!

I'm so excited to get to know each of you and work with you throughout the upcoming year!

Parents, please join our Google Classroom for weekly updates on what we're learning in class!

Google Classroom Code: xiabawc

Ms. Hannah Dierzbicki
General Science, Year 1
Thursdays 12:30 - 2:00p
h.dierzbicki@
bereaacademystl.org

Core Concepts

Required Supplies:

- 2" 3 ring binder
- Pencils
- Markers
- Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Ruler



Science Supplies:

- Purposeful Design Level 5 Textbook
- Purposeful Design Level 5 Student Workbook

A composition notebook and take-home folder will be provided.

Lab Expectations:

Students are expected to follow lab safety guidelines. Misuse of materials or unsafe practices may result in removal from future labs.

Course Overview:

Our curriculum covers these main topics:

- ★ Natural Cycles
- ★ Life Cycles
- ★ Cells
- ★ Ecological Succession
- ★ Measuring Matter
- ★ Changing Matter
- ★ Force and Work
- ★ Electricity and Magnetism



I'm thrilled to dive into these topics as a class! Our classes will kick off with a fun "brain buster" to energize us and get our minds ready. Then we'll explore our lessons, followed by engaging activities or experiments that bring our learning to life. My goal is to create an adventure in learning that's both fun and inspiring!

Homework: To help maintain an engaging and activity-based classroom experience at school, students will be required to complete typical bookwork and worksheets at home for homework.

Academic Integrity:

In our classroom, it's important for students to do their own work and be honest. Students will show academic integrity by doing their best work, using their own ideas, and asking for help if they're unsure about something.

The Science Fair:

Berea Academy is hosting our very first science fair in January! Students will work in class and at home to create a science fair project that they are passionate about! We will present the Science Fair Projects in class for a grade. The evening event is not required, but extra credit will be offered to students who participate.

In November, I will send home an outline for the Science Fair Project with directions and due dates.



Grading:

Participation/Homework/Classwork:

Students will receive a participation grade each week for engaging in class discussion, experiments and activities, and class work. The grading rubric for this section will be discussed with the students as we talk about what is expected in the class and what participating in class looks like. These grades will be organized into standards for **4 (exceeding expectations), 3 (meeting expectations), 2 (approaching expectations), and 1 (beginning to meet expectations)**.

We will continue this practice throughout the school year when developing grading tools for projects. This will help the students acclimate to working toward specific standards, as well as using self-assessment to check their own progress.

For weekly homework/class assessments, grading will be based on percentages of points/questions answered correctly. Unless otherwise indicated by a particular assignment rubric, letter grades will correlate to following standard percentages:

A+ (97–100), A (93–96), A- (90–92),
B+ (87–89), B (83–86), B- (80–82),
C+ (77–79), C (73–76), C- (70–72),
D+ (67–69), D (65–66), D- (below 65).

Students will also take some quizzes/tests throughout the year. Since formal test taking may be new to this grade level of students, the instructor will always give students the opportunity to look back over graded work and fix and marked errors. The goal of testing in this class is to help students get acclimated to the process and find success in analyzing and checking their own work.

Classroom Behavior:

In order to be successful and have a fun learning experience, it is important that we follow these rules in the classroom!

- ★ **Be Respectful:** Listen when others are speaking, and be kind to your classmates and teacher.
- ★ **Be Prepared:** Bring your materials and come ready to participate in experiments and activities.
- ★ **Be Safe:** Follow all safety instructions during experiments and use materials carefully.
- ★ **Be Responsible:** Clean up after yourself and take care of the classroom tools and equipment.
- ★ **Be Curious:** Ask questions and share your ideas - there are no wrong questions in science!

Example of Letter Grades and Values

Task: Name 3 Parts of a Cell and Their Purpose

| A+ (exceed- ing) | A (meet -ing) | B (approa- ching) | C (beggin- ing) | D (miss -ing) | F (failing) |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| Student names MORE than 3 parts of a cell and their purpose. | Students names 3 correct parts of a cell and their purpose. | Student names 2 correct parts of a cell and their purpose. | Student names 1 correct part of a cell and its purpose. | Student can name a part of a cell but not its purpose or vice versa. | Students is incorrect in totality, does not attempt task. |

Tech Resources:



You will be invited to our google classroom using the email you provided at registration.

(Please make sure that it is up to date.)

Pictures, activities, and assignments will be posted by the instructor weekly!



Google Classroom

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Thinkwave is Berea's online gradebook. Parents will receive email updates with midterm and final grades. You may also log in at any time to view grades.

