



Our World Neighborhood Charter School

Ms. Cyriac – Science Teacher

Ms. Edmiston – Principal

Syllabus

I.) Class Rules

- A) All school rules must be followed in Ms. Cyriac's class.
 - 1) No hats, electronic devices, or headphones. No Exceptions!!
 - 2) Food, beverages, and chewing gum are not allowed.
- B) Students will be responsible for all notes, homework, projects, and other assignments. Ms. Cyriac will be creating a website so that students can access helpful resources, a copy of the syllabus, announcements, current events, and other assignments online in case a student is absent as well as to remind students of important dates for quizzes, exams, etc. The website will be up and running very soon.
- C) Excessive talking, unruly behavior, and lateness will hurt your ability to perform in class. This will also impact your class participation grade. Punctuality is very important in my class. If students are late, they must give in a late pass.
- D) Students will respect Ms. Cyriac, school property AND each other.

II.) Grading System

- A) 5% - Classwork / Participation
 - 1) Students are expected to work diligently in the classroom. Work done in class may be collected and graded (ex. Exit slip).
 - 2) Participation consists of asking questions when something is not understood, being punctual to class, and actively participating in class activities.
- B) 10% - Homework
 - 1) Homework will be numbered.
 - 2) Homework will be given 3-4 times a week and may consist of creative work, handouts, etc.

- 3) Students are responsible for handing in any homework when it is due. Students that hand in work late will experience a deduction in points. Work that is not submitted will count as “0”.
- C) 10% - Quizzes
- 1) Quizzes will cover 1-2 chapters of the current unit of study. A review session will always be given before a quiz.
 - 2) The format of a quiz can be one or a variety of the following: Vocabulary, Short Answer, Fill in the Blank, Multiple Choice, or Matching
 - 3) Students may earn the privilege of using handouts, notes, classwork, and/or vocabulary cards during quizzes (*under certain conditions- See Miscellaneous*).
- D) 30% - Tests (***Not Open Book***)
- 1) Tests will be given to students at the end of each unit. A review session will always be given before a test.
 - 2) The format of a test can be a variety of the following: Vocabulary, Short Answer, Fill in the Blank, Multiple Choice, and/or Matching.
 - 3) Some of the questions for tests may be asked to students during review, which is why it is important that all students pay attention during class review. Extra help will also be offered before a test after school.
 - 4) Students will get the chance to create their own questions for certain tests/quizzes as a team.
 - 5) Creating a **TOTAL OF 25** vocabulary cards with important words, definitions, and/or notes and showing it to Ms. Cyriac before the start of each test will allow students to receive 5 extra points on their test.
- E) 20 % - Projects – Ex.) Research projects, Creative assignments, etc.
- 1) There will be at least one project every quarter.
 - 2) Student will always be given a sufficient amount of time (2-3 weeks) to complete their projects.
 - 3) Students may earn an extension on Projects.
 - 4) Most Projects will be assigned as individual assignments, but some may be worked on with a partner or in groups.
 - 5) Students will have different options for completing projects.
- F) 5% - Portfolio
- 1) Students are responsible for consistently working on their portfolio and handing it in when it is due. A late portfolio will result in deduction of points.

G) 20% - Labs

- 1) Lab will take place once a week.
- 2) Lab will consist of hands on activities in which students will have to work in groups or pairs to complete a task. Students are required to actively participate as well as hand in any assignments that are given to them during lab. Late lab work will result in a deduction of points.

III.) Supplies

For Science Class, you must bring pens and pencils, a 3-ring binder (a binder with pockets is recommended), and looseleaf. If the binder does not consist of a pocket for worksheets, please also bring a folder as you will receive many handouts. The binder can be divided into two sections- for lecture and lab. You will also need an additional two folders, which will be used for the portfolio and lab.

IV.) Miscellaneous

- A) Science class will be very informative yet fun. Questions and discussions are encouraged. However, excessive talking and disruptions will impact your child's ability to function successfully in Ms. Cyriac's class. Mandatory Study Hall will be given to those students who frequently show a lack of effort.
- B) Ms. Cyriac's class is designed to inspire, challenge, and enlighten your child. Hard work is necessary to succeed, while lack of effort will cause difficulties. Ms. Cyriac will always bring a positive attitude to class. She expects all of her students to do the same.
- C) Students can be rewarded certain benefits, such as extra credit assignments, extra credit points, test corrections, extensions, and open notebook quizzes depending on their behavior in class. If students are well behaved and are doing what they are supposed to do, they will be rewarded with these benefits.
- D) Ms. Cyriac can be reached through her school E-mail address (bcyriac@owncs.org). Important dates (such as dates for tests, quizzes, due dates, etc.) will all be posted on a separate website, which will be accessible to parents and students, as soon as it is up and running.

V.) What will we be learning this year?

Quarter 1:

- **Lab Safety and Scientific Inquiry:** Students will be able to follow safe practices in the lab and classroom settings. Students will be able to select and use appropriate lab equipment. Students will be able to identify parts of the microscope and use the microscope properly. Students will make measurements and perform conversions using the metric system. Students will also design, carry out, and analyze a controlled experiment and interpret and construct tables and graphs for their results.

- **Chemical Interactions:** Objects in the universe are composed of matter. Matter is anything that takes up space and has mass. Matter is classified as a substance or a mixture of substances. Knowledge of the structure of matter is essential to students' understanding of the living and physical environments. Matter is composed of elements which are made of small particles called atoms. All living and nonliving material is composed of these elements or combinations of these elements. These elements are organized in a periodic table.

Quarter 2:

- **Earth Processes:** Students investigate fossils from the Grand Canyon to discover clues about the Earth's History. Students consider the processes that made the Earth how it is today. Students study the properties of different types of soils. They investigate soil profiles, organic and inorganic components, use of fertilizers, and soil mapping. Students investigate properties of rocks and minerals as they consider questions related to use of our natural resources. Physical properties of individual specimens, such as luster, hardness, and color are investigated, as are main rock types — sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic—and how rocks change from one form to another in the rock cycle. Students investigate the destructive forces of wind, wave and water on landforms as they decide where to build homes. Stream tables and topographic maps are used, respectively, to study river action and deposition of sediments, and landform contours. Students explore the structure of the earth.

Quarter 3:

- **The Human Body:** Cells, The skin, Muscular System, Skeletal System, Blood and Circulation

- **Vertebrates and Invertebrates**

Quarter 4:

- **Biodiversity:** Students examine what is life and what determines if an organism is living or nonliving. Students discover that all living things, despite their complexity, share the same basic characteristics. Students learn that all organisms (bacteria, protists, fungi, plants, and animals) are composed of cells, and that a single cell is the fundamental unit of life. Students explore the relationship of organisms to their environment, and how the environment is affected by their interactions. Students study microbiology; cell size, structure, function and permeability; and systems of classification. Students will gain an appreciation for the awesome diversity of life on Earth and a personal interest in all forms of life.

Student's Name (Print) _____

Parent's Signature _____