

# MacDowell Preparatory Academy 2021-2022 Course Syllabus

Course: Science Grade: 6|7|8 Room#: 212  
 Instructor: Ms. Brown Email: abrown@macdowellprep.com  
 Conference Time: By appointment only Textbook: No textbook needed  
 Quarterly: 1, 2, 3, 4 # of Weeks: 18  
 Website Address: <https://www.macdowellprep.com/>

<i>Course Description</i>	This course will cover the basics of middle school science in today's world. Students will focus on the following components of proficiency and application. Worksheets, reading assignments, related films/videos and labs will be used to demonstrate these components. Other concepts will also be explored. Students will apply their knowledge to everyday uses of science in the real world and their every lives.
<i>Prerequisite classes</i>	No prerequisite is required.

<p><b>Course Objectives</b></p>	<p>Integrated with these concepts are the Michigan Educational Technology Standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Describe the scientific method and explain the value of observation and measurement in scientific investigations.</li> <li>➤ Describe the general nature of the Solar System, the Earth and Moon and their movements.</li> <li>➤ Explain how various Earth materials are formed and how the Earth changes over time through storms and other natural events such as volcanic eruptions.</li> <li>➤ Explain the concepts of force and motion and describe simple machines.</li> <li>➤ Know the systems of the human body and their functions.</li> <li>➤ Explain how living things respond to their environment and change over time</li> <li>➤ Understand concepts of ecology, and define terms such as habitat, ecosystem, producer and consumer.</li> <li>➤ Know resources that we obtain from the Earth and the effects of the human population on those resources.</li> <li>➤ Explain how air and water become polluted.</li> <li>➤ Describe what biodiversity is and why it is important to Earth.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Classroom Academic Requirements</b></p>	<p>Students will be required to do the following work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read assigned readings (at home and in-class)</li> <li>● Participate appropriately in class discussions and during group work</li> <li>● Maintain <b>regular, punctual attendance</b></li> <li>● Complete daily Discussion Boards (Do Now's) as assigned</li> <li>● Work cooperatively in groups as assigned</li> <li>● Use the M6 learning stations and demonstrate an understanding of the six tenets</li> <li>● Complete one assigned project</li> <li>● Speak or present as assigned</li> <li>● Discuss or debate topics as assigned</li> <li>● Take and organize notes daily</li> <li>● Maintain binder as a portfolio to show growth, keeping ALL related material</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monthly/Weekly Educational Calendar</b></p>	<p><b>Quarter 1 (9/7/21 - 10/29/20)</b> – Distribution of course rules, course syllabus  All Grade Levels: <b>Earth &amp; Space</b> (Earth materials, Weathering/Erosion, Geoscience processes, Natural Hazard predictions)  <b>Quarter 2 (11/1/21 - 1/14/22)</b> –All Grade Levels: <b>Physical</b> (Structure of matter, Physical/Chemical Properties, Synthetic Materials, Characteristics of Chemical Reactions, Heat/Matter, Changes in Energy, Thermal Energy)</p>

	<p><b>Quarter 3 (1/18/22 - 3/18/22) –</b>          6th/7th grade: <i>Life</i> (Cells, Anatomy of cells, Growth of Organisms, Introduction to photosynthesis, Energy Flow in Organisms)          8th grade: <i>Life</i> (Cells, Anatomy of cells, Bodies/Systems, Sensory receptors, Reproduction in cells/animals, Growth of Organisms, Energy Flow in Organisms)</p> <p><b>Quarter 4 (3/21/22 - 6/10/22) -</b>          6th/7th grade: <i>Life</i> (Ecosystems (7), Fossil Record, Natural Selection)          8th grade: <i>Life</i> (Ecosystems(7), Genes and proteins, Mutations)</p> <p><b><i>*All dates and topics mentioned herein are subject to change at the teacher's discretion in order to best serve all students.*</i></b></p>
<b>Strategies</b>	Use of Michigan standards, StemScopes Curriculum and science practices, class discussions, rubrics, individual student demonstrations in class, peer tutoring, small group study and presentations, journal writing, small group debates, intense use of vocabulary and in class assignments, use and application of research writing techniques, and multiple reading techniques.
<b>Required Materials</b>	<p>Students are required to <b>BRING</b> with them every class period: (You will not be allowed to go to your locker to retrieve them.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Ink pens <b>BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY</b></li> <li>Number 2 Pencils</li> <li>A <b>sturdy</b> 1” binder for notes and writing assignments</li> <li>At least one composition book</li> </ul> <p>Students would be at an advantage to have access to a home computer and printer. If not, students will have to arrange for lab-time at school or in a public library.</p> <p>(Note: The binder and its contents will last from September through June.)</p>
<b>Grades &amp; Scoring Procedure</b>	<p><b>Test/Projects</b> 40% of total grade  <b>Quizzes/Lab Assignments</b> 20% of total grade  <b>Classwork</b> 20% of total grade  <b>Participation</b> 10% of total grade  <b>Discussion Boards</b> 10% of total grade</p>
<b>Grading System</b>	<p><b>A</b> 90 - 100  <b>B</b> 80 - 89  <b>C</b> 70 - 79  <b>D</b> 60 - 69  <b>E</b> 59 or below</p>
<b>Classwork/Homework</b>	Students will receive classwork on a weekly basis that they are expected to complete during class time. If they are unable to complete the assignment during class time it is then homework, unless other instruction is given. In addition, students may be required to complete research periodically during the scheduled breaks for projects. Each student will be required to submit all assignments to the instructor via in person.
<b>Classroom Rules &amp; Policies</b> <b>Consequences and Rewards</b>  (Please see the Student Code of Conduct)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Overall, do things that will not prevent or in any way hinder the teacher from teaching you or others.</b></li> <li>2. It is expected that students are in class, seated and prepared for instruction within five minutes after the class has commenced.</li> <li>3. Hall Passes must be displayed by the student and visibly seen in hallways. If not obtained, any adult may and will instruct the student to return back to class.</li> <li>4. <b>Respect all people, and all property.</b></li> </ol>

	<p>5. <b>Cell Phones and other electronic devices</b>, if they are on and make a noise, vibrate or otherwise call attention to themselves, create a disruption. For this reason, these items must be in the off position and turned in <b>at the beginning</b> of class. Misuse of electronic devices may result in consequences in addition to confiscation of the device. Disciplinary consequences will be assigned to any student who is in violation in any way related to electronic devices.</p> <p>6. Food and drink are not permitted outside of the cafeteria except during school day snack time inside of individual classrooms.</p> <p>7. <b>No cursing/profanity or name-calling.</b></p> <p>8. No grooming during class.</p> <p>9. Be alert and attentive during class time; no sleeping.</p> <p>10. <b>Do your best on all assignments.</b></p> <p>11. Schedule an appointment as soon as possible to ask for help or to state an issue you have in this class.</p> <p>12. No cheating or plagiarism. <b>PLAGIARISM/CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.</b> Plagiarizing is a form of cheating, and cheating is <i>never</i> acceptable. Plagiarism/cheating is the taking of someone else’s writing, work, ideas, etc. and not citing the source. If you are caught, you will ...</p> <p><b>Negative Consequences.....</b>Students who do not comply will be subject to consequences such as parent phone calls, temporary removal from class, detention, or other administrative intervention if the problem persists.</p> <p><b>Positive Consequences.....</b>Students who do comply will receive the best possible learning experience, parent phone calls, leadership roles in class, as well as other special treats and/or other administrative rewards.</p> <p><b>Follow all school rules as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct</b></p>
<p><b>Classroom Procedures</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quietly enter the classroom (<b>zero noise level</b>), be seated before the bell rings, and begin your Bell Work (Do Now).</li> <li>- Complete your Discussion Board (Do Now) upon arrival.</li> <li>- Follow all directions the first time they are given.</li> <li>- Raise your hand to speak.</li> <li>- Once seated - remain seated unless requested or given permission to move</li> <li>- Be prepared daily with supplies and a positive, productive attitude</li> <li>- Respect the property of our school and each other</li> <li>- Treat others as you wish to be treated - even if they don’t</li> <li>- Neatly hold all trash until clean up time at the end of class unless requested or given permission to do otherwise</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Online Etiquette to be Observed By All Students (If virtual learning takes place)</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be on Time.</li> <li>2. Be Prepared (with your supplies, in school uniform, correct posture, and mindset).</li> <li>3. Be Respectful (of all people and electronic devices)</li> <li>4. Work from a quiet room (where you can focus and avoid disruptions).</li> <li>5. Listen and watch the screen carefully.</li> <li>6. Remain in frame (stay far enough away from the camera and keep your face visible).</li> <li>7. Use the “hand raise” icon/emoji or type “question” or “help” in the chat box when you need to ask a question or you need help.</li> </ol>

	<p>8. Parents/Guardians are always welcome to observe classes, but they may not interrupt unless in extreme emergency situations.</p> <p>9. Students are required to use their given name when onboarding into your class session and cannot use a nickname or numbers.</p> <p>10. Students that use profane language, are involved in inappropriate behavior, and cyber bullying will be subject to corrective action as outlined in the MacDowell Preparatory Academy Student Code of Conduct.</p>
<b><i>Attendance &amp; Tardiness</i></b> <i>(Please see the Student Code of Conduct)</i>	<b>Please refer to Student Code of Conduct</b>
<b><i>Make-Up Missed Assignments</i></b> <i>(Please see the Student Code of Conduct.)</i>	<p><b>Acquiring and completing the make-up work is the sole responsibility of the student.</b></p> <p>Students will be able to make up the work that is missed for a verified absence within the same number of days that they have been verified from school.</p> <p>If a student is absent for more than three consecutive days (excused) they may request their homework from the office. Please notify the Attendance/Counselor Office twenty-four hours in advance of the time you are expecting to pick up the work. Again, the student must be absent for three consecutive days for this homework policy to take effect.</p>
<b><i>Tips for Success</i></b>	<p>Follow all school rules as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct</p> <p>Come to class prepared</p> <p>Do the work</p> <p>Pay attention</p> <p>Be organized</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Save all graded assignments.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bring any concerns to the teacher's attention as soon as possible. Do not wait until report cards to tell me you have an issue.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Resources:</i></b>	School phone: 313-494-8141

## Remind App

**Remind is a digital app that allows the teacher to connect with scholars and parents in regards to updates, assignments and scholar behavior in the classroom. This sign up is MANDATORY and gives scholars a way to practice independence yet allowing parents to remain updated on classroom structure.**

**The link listed will be the direct link for the class**

**<https://www.remind.com/join/k8f7aa> where you can sign up directly.**

# Course Syllabus Acknowledgement Form

Teacher: Ms. Brown

Course: Science

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Student Name (Print)

Date

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Student Signature

Date

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Parent Name (Print)

Date

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Parent Signature

Date