 **Sixth Grade: Earth and Space Science**

Sixth grade science is designed with the idea that students should receive a science education they can use throughout their lives. One goal is empowering students to make sense of the world around them. A second is teaching students critical thinking, problem solving, data analysis and interpretation skills they can use in any career, and helping them make decisions that affect themselves, their families, and their communities.

Montana’s science standards call for science learning in which students do not just memorize a set of science facts, but rather engage in figuring out how and why things happen. Core ideas are arranged so students can build their understanding over time and can see the connections between different ideas and across disciplines. To figure out these core ideas, while building the skills that will help them make sense of the world around them, students engage in the same practices that real scientists and engineers do.

**This year students will:**

* Develop and use models
* Analyze data
* Make evidence-based arguments
* Plan and conduct investigations
* Design solutions as they figure out real-world problems
* Learn to make sense of core ideas using crosscutting concepts such as thinking in terms of systems or cause and effect

**Grading for 6th grade Science**

1. 70% Proficiency

* Chapter Quiz based on final chapter HW assignment (modify as needed)
* Final Unit Explanation
* Final Written Argument (Science Seminar)
* End of Unit Assessment (Summative Test)
* (Final proposal if doing Engineering Project)

1. 25% Habits of Work

* Daily Warm-ups
* Classwork/Homework

1. 5% Growth

* Self-Assessments (Checking Own Understanding)

I look forward to an excellent year with you! If there are any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Mr. Dudek

[bdudek@helenaschools.org](mailto:bdudek@helenaschools.org)

406-324-2787