

Ms. Saylor's Life Science

Room: 222 | Email: ksaylor@helenaschools.org |

Course Description:

Welcome to 7th grade science! This year we will be learning about life- how organisms survive, reproduce, interact with one another and their environment, and how life on Earth has changed over time. In this class, you will be a scientist, developing your critical thinking skills and engaging in the practices that real-life scientists and engineers use everyday. Be prepared to ask questions, make observations, develop ideas, communicate your findings, and have fun!

Unit of Study	Essential Question
Microbiome	How can having 100 trillion microorganisms in the human body keep us healthy?
Metabolism	What is causing Elisa, a young patient, to feel tired all the time?
Traits and Reproduction	Why do Darwin's bark spider offspring have different silk flexibility traits even though they have the same parents?
Populations and Resources	What caused the size of the moon jelly population in Glacier Sea to increase?
Matter and Energy in Ecosystems	Why did the Biodome ecosystem collapse?
Natural Selection	What caused the newt population in Oregon State Park to become more poisonous?
Evolutionary History	Is this mystery fossil more closely related to wolves or whales?

Class Supplies: Single-Subject notebook for science only, pencil, corded computer mouse

Grading:

Your course grade reflects your achievement of learning targets and daily class participation. Each assignment and assessment is based on specific learning targets connected to the MT State Science Standards. Grades will be updated weekly. The course grade consists of the following weighted categories and will use the district's letter grade scale.

Category	Assignment Types	Weight
Learning Target Assessments Opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the Montana State Science Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• End of Chapter Tasks• Written Scientific Arguments• Science Seminar Discussions• Quizzes• Critical Juncture (mid-unit check of understanding)• End of Unit Assessments• Final Proposals (for Engineering Units)	70 %
Habits of Work A measure of class participation and practice with new concepts and skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classwork• End of chapter/unit reflections & surveys• Notebook checks	30%

Class Expectations:

We follow the HMS BOB Universals: Be **Safe**, Be **Responsible**, Be **Respectful**, Be a **Learner!** (See Student Handbook). Due to the nature of our class, we also abide by safety expectations as set in our *Science Safety Contract*. When we follow these rules it ensures that we have a fun and safe environment!

Since this is a science class and we will be working with a variety of substances, there will be no eating in the classroom.

Absent? It is <u>your responsibility</u> to find out what you missed <u>by checking my weekly agenda</u> on teams and complete the makeup work. If it was a paper handout we completed, please come talk to me.	Late and Corrected Assignments are accepted during the unit in which they are assigned. <u>For every assignment, you may complete one "re-do" to improve your grade.</u> Late work will not be accepted after the End of Unit Assessment.	Submitting Absent/Late Work: <u>You must communicate</u> that you have turned in digital absent/late/corrected work by sending me a Team's Chat message with the <u>name of the assignment</u> . I will be grading late work on Thursdays.
--	--	--

--	--	--

HOMEWORK: I will give you class time to complete assignments, however if you are unable to finish it, you are expected to finish it during Advisor time or at home.

Tardies: Be in your seat, working on the bell-ringer when the bell rings. **If you receive more than 3 tardies, a detention will be issued.**

Leaving the Classroom: Passing time is used to gather supplies, get water and use the restroom. I have a **10/10 rule**, no leaving the first and last 10 minutes of class. If you need to use the restroom after the first 10 minutes, you must sign-out and then sign-in on the clipboard, and wear the pass.

Technology: It is important that we use classroom time effectively. In our classroom, we have a “Phone Hotel” where students can put their phones for the period to keep it safe and away. Otherwise phones, headphones, and apple watches should be turned off and in your pocket or in your locker.

If a student is on their phone during class time, they will first be given a verbal warning. The second offense, the phone will be confiscated and placed on top of my desk. If the student is caught on their phone again for a third time, the phone will go to the office.

Access to chromebooks are only allowed under teacher discretion. If we are using the computers, it’s for educational purposes only, and we are only on the websites that the teacher is allowing.

Sayler 7th Science Syllabus

Student and Guardian Acknowledgement

(Please sign, cut and return this bottom half of the syllabus to class by 9/5/2025)

I have read and understand the 7th grade Science course syllabus.

Student name (print) _____ **Class Period**_____

Student Signature _____ **Date**_____

Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____