

Robert L. Horbelt Intermediate School
6th Grade Science - Syllabus

Course Information	Teacher Information
6th Grade Science	Name(s): Mrs. Szelc
Full Year	Phone: (609) 660-7500 Mailbox Ext: 18245
Class Location: Room #504	*Email: eszelc@barnegatschools.com
	Teacher Website: https://www.barnegatschools.com/Domain/2285

Course Description:

Students in middle school will continue to develop their understanding of the three disciplinary core ideas in the Earth and Space Sciences. The middle school performance expectations in Earth and Space Science build on the elementary school ideas and skills and allow middle school students to explain more in-depth phenomena central not only to the earth and space sciences, but to life and physical sciences as well. These performance expectations blend the core ideas with scientific and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts to support students in developing usable knowledge to explain ideas across the science disciplines. While the performance expectations shown in middle school Earth and Space Science couple particular practices with specific disciplinary core ideas, instructional decisions should include use of many practices that lead to the performance expectations. Content explored in grade 6 will include space, matter/energy, water, and atmosphere/weather.

Course Competencies/ Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete science will be competent in the following areas:

- Students will be able to Describe characteristics, relationships, and effects of different components of our Solar System and Universe.
- Students will be able to Identify and demonstrate how energy travels through different types of waves requiring a medium.
- Students will be able to Differentiate different types of electromagnetic waves and relevance to light.
- Students will be able to Describe the steps and significance of the water cycle.
- Students will be able to Differentiate between different layers of Earth's atmosphere.
- Students will be able to investigate causes of different weather patterns and events.

Course Texts / Online Resources

Fusion Textbooks will be occasionally used in class
Google Classroom Codes can be found on my Teacher Website

Required Materials

3-Ring Binder (may be shared with Social Studies)	4 Dividers
Folder (3-hole)	Composition notebook
Glue Sticks	Pencils
	Scissors
	Highlighter

Also Recommend: Coloring utensils (to be used at home), pencil case to carry items in school

Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt class attendance is an essential part of the educational experience. The Barnegat Township School District expects students to be responsible and exercise good judgment regarding attendance and absences. Students accept full responsibility for ensuring that they complete any/all work missed due to absences.

Course Topic Outline

Please find a list of the units for this course:

Course Title: Science	Grade Level: 6
Unit 1: Astronomy	~ 55 Days
Unit 2: Light and Sound	~ 40 Days
Unit 3: Water & Earth's Oceans	~ 40 Days
Unit 4: Weather & the Atmosphere	~ 45 Days

Student Grades

The grading system for this course is based on the category weights listed in each department's policy. For this course, those weights are listed below.

Math/Science/English/Social Studies

Each marking period, students will have a minimum of three (3) Major Assessments and seven (7) Minor Assessments (explained below). Course Participation is assessed twice (2x) per marking period using the district rubric. Benchmark assessments will be recorded in Genesis for marking periods 1, 2 and 3.

Major Assessments	3	50% of marking period grade
Minor Assessments	7	30% of marking period grade
Course Participation	2	15% of marking period grade
Benchmark Assessments	1	5% of marking period grade

- Examples of Major Assessments include items that are summative in nature, such as: tests, projects, research papers, prose-constructed response timed writings, formal presentations, reports, Socratic seminars, or any other type of assessment used to capture evidence of learning at the culmination of a unit of study.
- Examples of Minor Assessments include items that are formative in nature, such as: quizzes, reading comprehension checks, response journals, exit tickets, small-scale research activities, reading logs, in class worksheets, or any other type of assessment that is diagnostic in nature and used to guide instruction and provide ongoing feedback to students.
- Note: grades for individual assignments are entered into Genesis for the marking period in which the assignment is collected, and not a subsequent marking period.
- Extra Credit will only be available for assignments that have been approved ahead of time by the teacher and department supervisor.
- In this course, it is expected that students will submit only their best work, and teachers reserve the right not to accept work that is substantially below what a student is capable of producing.
- *Please speak to your teacher about the opportunity for earned Second Chances on certain Major Assessments.*

Course Participation Rubric

	Academic Social Skills	Readiness to Learn / Study Skills	Class Discussions	Classwork	21st Century College and Career Readiness
Meeting Expectations	<p>20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Takes initiative in completing tasks in the online classroom. - Communicates needs to the teacher in an appropriate manner. - A role model for others in the online classroom. - Appropriately seeks support and/or assistance from the teacher. 	<p>20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produces notes and other materials that demonstrate effort and insight. - Is motivated and takes ownership of his/her learning. - Takes steps to better himself/herself through Google Meets, emailing, etc. 	<p>20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consistently completes the assigned discussion questions and rarely misses a question, if at all. - Responses consistently reflect high levels of care and pride in work. - Replies and interacts with peers in a meaningful manner. 	<p>20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consistently completes assigned tasks in a timely manner. - Actively participates in classroom activities on a daily basis. - Contributes to class discussions in a meaningful way (asking questions or adding to class discussion). 	<p>20 points</p> <p>Student <u>consistently</u> shows the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible and contributes to our online community. - Clearly and appropriately communicates with the teacher via email. - Understands the consequences of actions. - Responsibly uses technology.
Approaching Expectations	<p>15 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completes tasks in the online classroom. - Sometimes communicates needs to the teacher. - Frequently on-task, but may need some redirection from the teacher. 	<p>15 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Often produces notes and other materials that demonstrate effort, but may also require direction. - Is mostly motivated and takes ownership of his/her learning. - Often takes steps to better himself/herself through Google Meets, emailing, etc. 	<p>15 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Frequently completes the assigned discussion questions, but may have missed a few. - Responses sometimes reflect high levels of care and pride in work, but not always. - Replies and interacts with peers. 	<p>15 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Usually completes assigned classwork tasks. - Frequently participates in classroom activities but sometimes requires re-direction. - Usually contributes by responding, and/or asking questions. 	<p>15 Points</p> <p>Student <u>frequently</u> demonstrates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible and contributes to our online community. - Clearly and appropriately communicates with the teacher via email. - Understands the consequences of actions. - Responsibly uses technology.

Not Meeting Expectations	10 Points	10 Points	10 Points	10 Points	10 Points
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rarely completes tasks in the online classroom. - Does not communicate needs to the teacher. - Frequently needs re-direction from the teacher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produces notes and other materials that lack effort to learn. - Unmotivated and does not take ownership of his/her learning. - Does not take appropriate steps to better himself/herself. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rarely completes the assigned discussion questions. - Responses do not reflect care and pride in work. - Little to no replies and interactions with peers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rarely completes assigned tasks and does not produce his/her best work. - Usually does not participate in classroom activities and often requires teacher re-direction - Usually does not contribute by responding and/or asking questions. 	<p>Student rarely demonstrates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible and contributes to our online community. - Clearly and appropriately communicates with the teacher via email. - Understands the consequences of actions. - Responsibly uses technology.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Integrity

The Barnegat Township School District places a strong emphasis on students’ integrity, and the district will not tolerate instances of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism is the practice of copying words, sentences, images, or ideas for use in written or oral assessments without giving proper credit to the source. Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of illegal help on anything that has been determined by the teacher to be an individual effort. Both are considered serious offenses and are subject to consequences described in the Student Handbook and Board Policy #5701.

Honor Code

The purpose of this Honor Code is to communicate the meaning and importance of academic integrity to all members of the school community and to articulate and support the interest of the community in maintaining the highest standards of conduct in student learning. Barnegat High School embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of learning, and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the school community. The core values underlying and reflected in the Honor Code are:

Academic honesty is demonstrated by students when the ideas and the writing of others are properly cited; *students submit their own work for tests and assignments without unauthorized assistance; students do not provide unauthorized assistance to others; and students report their research or accomplishments accurately.*

Respect for others and the learning process to demonstrate academic honesty.

Trust in others to act with academic honesty as a positive community-building force in the school,

Responsibility is recognized by all to demonstrate their best effort to prepare and complete academic tasks.

Fairness and equity are demonstrated so that every student can experience an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty.

Integrity of all members of the school community as demonstrated by a commitment to academic honesty and support of our quest for authentic learning.

This Honor Code summarizes the Honor Policy, which defines the expected standards of conduct in academic affairs. The student body and faculty at Barnegat High School will not tolerate any violation of the Honor Code.

Any violation of the Honor Code will result in Administrative Consequences and be detrimental to student grade.

Student Expectations

1. All school rules and policies apply to this class.
2. The teacher and students will work together for a respectful, safe classroom.
3. Students are expected to wear their masks in school.
4. Bring your CHARGED chromebook to class and have your charger.
5. Students will come to class on time, prepared, and ready to learn.
6. Students will complete all assignments, including homework, by all deadlines. Make-up work is only accepted after an excused absence. It is your responsibility to see me for your work before or after class. Email with any questions or issues.
7. Students will actively participate in class discussions and other activities in order to enhance their learning experiences.
8. Cell phones, iPods, or any other personal electronic devices are prohibited in class unless instructed directly by your teacher.

Extra Help and Support

Occasionally, students will require additional help to master the content and skills in this course. If you need additional help, there are a variety of options for you, including:

- Extra help by appointment - Email or talk to me in class to schedule.
- After school Assistance program - Meets weekly with another science teacher for extra help.
- Free online tutoring with Brainfuse (available from the Barnegat Library website)

As your teacher, I am committed to your success. If you need help, please ask!

I have read and understand the syllabus for 6th Grade Science.

Student Signature

Print Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Print Name