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| Pirate | **Reedley High School****Environmental Science Syllabus****2014-15** |

**Course: Environmental Science**

**Teacher:** Ms. Kathryn Connolly

**Classroom:** S11 **Phone**: 559.305.7100

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**Website:** <http://reedleychemistry.weebly.com/>

Textbook: Pearson Chemistry 2012

*TURNITIN.com and remind101.com will be used*

Environmental Science is a year-long course designed to show thematic connections between a variety of science disciplines including biology, chemistry, and physics. Environmental Science is a curriculum that is designed to introduce students to major ecological concepts and the environmental problems that affect the world in which we live. There is an urgent need for environmental education. This program provides one way in which students can become aware of the interactions of people and their environment. The curriculum focuses on concepts that are real-life issues. It promotes awareness and understanding of practical everyday problems that affect their lives. It also relates important environmental issues to the lives of the students and their families.

I have the highest expectations of my students. I believe everyone has the potential to succeed academically, be effective communicators and responsible citizens. Courtesy, politeness, respect, focus and diligence are lifelong practices that are also practiced in our classroom. We will be spending 9 months together. Enjoy, support and challenge each other as we explore the world of science!

Please review your student/parent handbook for all standard policies and procedures. You will be making the first steps toward achieving success by becoming familiar with all the requirements, policies and expectations.

**General Requirements:**

It is the student’s responsibility to make up work missed due to an **excused** absence. Students will be given at least the time to make up work that is equivalent to the number of days missed; i.e. 2 days excused absences, 2 days to make up work.

* Students will be expected to make-up exams upon returning from an excused absence, you will need to speak with me to schedule a time and date. Its **YOUR** responsibility to make up missing work/exams/labs.
* Classwork/exams cannot be made up due to **unexcused tardiness and absences**.
* Late work will be accepted one day late for half credit
* **Labs Missed While Absent:**  Mostlabs missed because of absence cannot be made up. Some labs can be made up during Pirate Power Hour. If this is the case, you will receive an alternate assignment that you must do in order to receive an excused grade for a lab.

**Extracurricular activities:**

Students who are involved in extracurricular activities such as music, farm, drama, or sports often ask to be excused from class. It is very important that these students understand that some of the work they miss cannot be made up and the student may receive no credit for that work. A student missing class for an extracurricular activity can request to take a weekly quiz early, during lunch or Mondays after school. But lab work often cannot be made up. Students will not be excused for extracurricular activities if they are not maintaining at least a “C” grade. **It is the student’s responsibility to keep their coaches and other teachers informed of their grades so that there are no surprises if a student must miss an activity.** Students are expected to turn in any assignments that are due *before* leaving for an activity. Failure to do so may result in not being allowed to leave class for the activity or a zero on that assignment.

**Labs:**

* Labs provide students with hands-on learning and can be very enjoyable.
* Absolutely no food or drink is allowed in the lab. This includes water bottles and gum as well.
* Behavior that endangers the safety of others or is inappropriate will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior by one can endanger all; therefore it is possible for one student to suspend laboratories for the entire class.
* Lab Safety will be reviewed at the beginning of the semester. Students will be required to sign a safety contract that must also be endorsed by their parents/guardians.
* Serious violations or repeat offenses in the lab will result in a zero for all labs for the remainder of the grading period or semester as I deem appropriate.

**Use of Technology:** Use of school computers and laptops is subject to school policy**.**

* Apart from your scientific calculator, no use of any other electronic devices in class will be permitted.  Projects that use technology will be the exception. This includes, but is not limited to: iPods, mp3 players or other digital music/video devices. Headphones must be put away as well.
* As technology becomes accessible it will be integrated and used in the classroom

**Homework:**

Chemistry is a quantitative science and understanding of its concepts requires problem solving. In order to succeed in chemistry, you must work out the assigned problems and read the text and related handouts. As in everything in life, “*practice makes perfect*”, and in chemistry the only way to “*practice*” for tests, is to solve problems. Homework will be checked and will be reviewed in class. Group problem solving sessions may be scheduled sporadically throughout the school year.

**Notebooks:**

Every student must have a chemistry notebook. It is to be a spiral bound notebook (one for each quarter)

 8 x 11.5. The purpose of the notebook is to stay organization and a study tool. All work (notes, labs, homework, etc ) will be placed chronologically in the folder. Parents are encouraged to check their child’s notebook for assignments and progress.

**Laboratory Procedures:**

The laboratory part of the course will let you see first-hand chemical principles and processes in action. It will also give you experience with some of the methods scientists use to do chemical research.

Grading of the laboratory will be based, but not limited to the following:

* Formal laboratory report. Turnitin.com will be used
* All formal lab reports must be prepared on a word processor and graphs should be computer generated as well as data tables. If you cannot use computer generated graphs, you must attach graphs done on graph paper to your report with the appropriate data table. Data and calculations may be done by hand.
* I must be able to read and understand what is written. If I cannot read it you get a zero!

**Materials needed:**

* Each of you will need a spiral bound notebook (required daily) 8 x 11.5.
* Pen, pencil, highlighter and coloring pencils (required daily).
* Graph paper/notebook paper

**Grading**

Your grade will be determined through a combination of exams, homework, labs, oral and written projects, and class work. Active participation, attendance, and readiness to learn (good conduct and preparedness) will also be reflected in your grade;

**Weighted Categories**

 40% Exams

 40% Labs /Projects

 20% Classwork / Homework / Participation

* Your notebook will contain all of your notes, homework, labs, quizzes, etc. Your work is to be kept in chronological order. Notebooks will be checked approximately every two weeks. All students will be able to calculate and double check grades. A comprehensive final will be given at the end of each semester. This notebook will be an essential tool for studying.

**\*NOTE: There will not be any extra-credit assignments unless all of your regular assignments are turned in.**

**Technology:**

Technology will be incorporated within the course; therefore, you will need access to a computer with Internet access from school (library media center), home, or public library. It is recommended that you obtain a flash memory key with at least 1 GB of storage capacity.

**Class Website:** <http://reedleychemistry.weebly.com/>

**Classroom Rules:**

* No eating, gum chewing or drinking in class except during class sponsored activities (food labs)
* Be polite, positive, and proactive
* Students should be prepared at all times
* Be on time
* Respect each other and school property
* Be safe
* Think Chemistry

Make sure you are aware of the policies and procedures in the handbook in order to avoid any unnecessary consequences for breaking the rules.

**Parents: Please read, fill out and complete the following information.**

* **We will be using and integrating technology in the classroom.**
* **Please be assured that appropriate and relevant materials will only be used.**
* **I like to post projects and pictures on my website to showcase student’s work and progress.**
* **I will never post personal information.**
* **Please email me with any questions or concerns.**
* **I am also available for conferences if needed.**
* **Monday afternoon’s right after school: I will be available for help or make-up work. If no one shows up, I will probably leave.**

 I give permission to post my child’s pictures and/or work on school related websites.

 I give permission for my child to watch movie clips/movies that are rated PG13, PG or G

 **I *do not*** give permission for my child to *any watch movie clips/movies*.

My child, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, may use technology in the classroom to promote and demonstrate learning.

I have discussed the appropriate uses of internet (technology) in the classroom. We understand that technology privileges and grades can be adversely affected by misuse of technology in the classroom or against other persons.

***I prefer that my child not use technology in the classroom, an alternative assignment will be given.***

Student Name (Print)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Period 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Date:\_\_\_\_\_**

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student email (prefer gmail)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name **(print)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent contact information**:

Best phone number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best email contact:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Questions or Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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