Eighth Grade Science

Mrs. Keller

2011-12

Welcome to 8th grade science!! I am very excited about this year as I anticipate we will have lots of fun learning. My conference hour is second period (334-3087) ext 3111. My email address is KELLERN@branson.k12.mo.us.

Also, please visit our class website at [www.mrskellerscience.weebly.com](http://www.mrskellerscience.weebly.com). Here, you will find study help, pictures of what we are doing in class, and a full list of grade level expectations for each unit.

# Grade Level Expectations

In eighth grade, students will study Life science covering topics related to the following “Big Ideas”:

1. You must have a valid plan to solve a problem.
2. Living things needs certain things to survive.
3. The different structures of a cell work together to ensure the cell’s survival.
4. Each cell undergoes processes that ensure its survival, and often the survival of other organisms.
5. Reproduction must occur for a species to survive.
6. Inherited genes determine an organism’s traits.
7. Our body systems work together to make us a highly complex organism.
8. Bacteria are the smallest organisms yet have important roles in the environment.
9. Protists and Fungi have important roles in maintaining environments.
10. The Animal kingdom includes diverse groups of organisms.

Grading Scale

Grades will be an average of the total points possible and the points earned by the student. Tests, quizzes, and projects will be weighted more than homework. Letter grades are assigned as shown in the Branson Jr. High handbook.

Late Work

Students are expected to be responsible and turn in assignments when they are due.

Absences

The Student Handbook states that students will be given one day to make up assignments for each day missed. If a long term assignment has been announced during a student’s presence previous to his/her absence, he/she will be required to turn in the assignment upon returning to school. It is the responsibility of the **STUDENT** to find out what he/she missed during the absence.

# Extra Credit

The only extra credit that will be allowed is percentage points earned from the ***Respect the Code Cards.*** Students will **not** be assigned extra credit on an individual basis to raise his/her grade at the end of the term.

# Labs

Laboratory experiences are an essential part of science. The lab can be a dangerous place if safety rules are not observed. Any student who does not follow lab rules will not be allowed to participate in labs and will lose points for that lab. A safety contract will have to be signed by the student and parent before he/she will be allowed to participate in labs. Students will also take a safety quiz prior to the first lab and must pass with a 90% or better or retake the quiz.

# Student Expectations RESPECT THE PIRATE CODE!!

# 1. Be READY! (on time, paper, pencil, book, assignment)

2. Be RESPECTFUL!!

3. Be RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR BEHAVIOR!!

4**.BE SUCCESSFUL!!!!!**

**Respect the Code Cards**

1. Students will be given a ***Respect the Code Card*** at the beginning of each quarter worth up to 3 BONUS percentage points.
2. The card is to be kept in the front cover of the student planner.
3. The card will have six available punches; each worth one half percentage to be added to the term grade.
4. Each violation of #’s 1-3 above will result in a punch to that card and loss of half a bonus point.
5. **If at any time the student does not have his/her card when asked, he/she will forfeit ALL bonus points.**

\*\*In cases of tardiness, cheating, and severe disruptions, punches will be lost and the handbook will be followed. \*\*