



Welcome to 4th and 5th grade Science class!

2018 – 2019 School Year

Hello parents and students! My name is Joanne McFarland, and I will be your child's science teacher. I teach math, art, and science – and science is one of my favorite subjects. I'm looking forward to experimenting in class!

In 4th grade, our curriculum will cover a variety of topics. We will learn about the Earth (plants and animals, ecosystems, natural resources), Space, Matter, Energy and Heat, Electricity and Magnetism, and Motion. 4th grade science class will meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

In 5th grade, our topics will include Organisms, Human Anatomy, Ecosystems, Water Cycle and Weather, Earth Sciences, Space, Matter, Forces and Motion, Energy, and Magnetism. 5th grade science class will also meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Grading will be based on the following:

Tests:	45% (one per chapter, one per unit)
Labs/Assignments:	35% (lab sheets and lesson checks from each lesson)
Projects:	10% (one per semester)
Participation:	10% (text/notebook completion)

Each student will be given a pocket folder, a spiral notebook (for notes and journaling), and the science book. Students will not be receiving a traditional hard cover textbook; the textbook and workbook are integrated into an interactive Science book, where both reading and many assignments will be entered. Students *must* bring their folder and book to each class as we will be reading and reviewing the lesson for that day. Our science curriculum has an online component, and students will be able to utilize that for studying and assignments.

Each chapter has 4 - 8 lessons, and will include a vocabulary list, which will be part of the chapter tests and unit tests. I will also have students turn in the text/workbook after we complete a chapter, which will account for the 10% participation grade. And lastly, we will have a science project per semester.

If you have any questions, I am available during school hours (when I am not in class). The quickest and easiest way to contact me is via email at jmcfarland@millhopper.com. It's going to be a fun year in science!

Sincerely,
Ms. Joanne McFarland