

***Sixth Grade Science Syllabus***  
**2015-2016**

**Class:** Science

**Teacher:** Ms. Adrienne Jacobs

**Room:** 154

**Email:** Jacobs.a@valleyacademycharter.com

**Course Description:** Sixth grade science at Valley Academy Charter is a dynamic and challenging program. Through inquiry-based learning, which includes hands-on lab activities and experiences, students will ask and answer meaningful and thought provoking questions, share new and important knowledge with others and practice scientific processes. Sixth grade science will provide students with a basic knowledge of heat/light/sound, microorganisms, moon phases/tides, our planet, our solar system, galaxies, and the universe, with special emphasis on how this knowledge relates to them and their personal range of experiences. Beyond that, it is my goal to teach my students to develop an understanding of, and appreciation for, the basic concepts of science.

**Essential Standards:**

STANDARD I: Students will understand that the appearance of the moon changes in a predictable cycle as it orbits Earth and as Earth rotates on its axis.

STANDARD II: Students will understand how Earth's tilt on its axis changes the length of daylight and creates the seasons.

STANDARD III: Students will understand the relationship and attributes of objects in the solar system.

STANDARD IV: Students will understand the scale of size, distance between objects, movement, and apparent motion (due to Earth's rotation) of objects in the universe and how cultures have understood, related to and used these objects in the night sky.

STANDARD V: Students will understand that microorganisms range from simple to complex, are found almost everywhere, and are both helpful and harmful.

STANDARD VI: Students will understand properties and behavior of heat, light, and sound.

**Grading:** Grading is done on a percentage system as follows:

Tests	40%
Labs & Projects	30%
Assignments/Participation	20%
Notebook	10%

Scale:

A = 90-100
B = 80-90
C = 70-80
D = 60-70
F = 0-59

**Homework:** Homework will usually consist of work necessary to reinforce concepts introduced in class and preparation for tests. A minimal amount of parental assistance may be necessary. Most of the assignments can be completed in class; however, you should expect to see homework from time to time.

**Make-Up Work:** A student who has an excused absence from class is to be permitted to make up those assignments that he/she has missed. It is the student's responsibility to inquire about the work that was missed. Late assignments will be penalized five points per day late for the first four days. After that, the assignment may be turned in for half credit.

**Communication with Parents:** Clear and open communication between Student-Teacher-Parents is vital to instruction. Please send a note, leave a phone message, or send an email. If you need to reach me, please email me at Valley Academy Charter School. I will be glad to discuss any issue you have.

**Resources:** Students will engage in learning experiences, which involve both scientific and technological content and processes. Therefore, students will be doing research with computers and the internet. Occasionally, students will be expected to display data collected during lab using a spreadsheet and type their reports with a word processor. Students will also learn from state text, videos, literature, magazines, and guest speakers. Different types of equipment will be used during labs. Such as: eye protection, magnifying glasses, eyedroppers, tweezers, microscopes, and etc.

**Technology: Vision Statement**

- To produce globally-competitive, lifelong learners through rigorous and relevant curriculum taught by highly prepared visionary leaders who recognize the importance of engaging a diverse body of learners.
- To provide 21st Century resources

**Teaching Strategies:** *Teaching Styles that describe myself:*

- Help every child in the classroom become a lifelong learner and to help every child reach his or her dreams
- Students can feel safe and comfortable
- Classroom where effective learning takes place, it must be an area in which everyone respects, encourages, and cares for one another
- Create a collaborative working environment
- In the classroom, students work independently as well as in dynamic pairs and groups
- School webpage's, e-mail, online grade books, and educational websites help parents and teachers take advantage of technologies to bridge the communication gap and build family-school partnerships.
- Interactive learning experiences
- Learning through use of lap tops, PowerPoint presentations, notes, worksheets, flashcards, and tutorial videos.
- Classroom discipline enforced
- Conduct structured lessons that involves interaction throughout the class
- Project oriented lessons
- Use of Science notebook that contains vocabulary, notes, and labs.
- Lessons that involve initiative with a high level of energy
- Lessons developed through a pacing guide that aligns with Utah State Common Core Objectives and Standards.
- Caring and sensitive to the students needs.

I have read and understand this syllabus.

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