

Questions you might have

- Who is my child's teacher?
- What will my child be studying this year?
- How will this class be structured? What are the classroom routines?
- What does my child need to be successful in class?
- How does grading work?

About the Teacher

Education

- B.S in Middle level education with concentrations in Science and Social Science
- Masters in Curriculum Instruction with a minor in Language Development

Experience

- 2nd year at Hadley
- 3 years teaching 8th grade Science and S.S in Plainfield
- 1 year teaching 8th grade science in Grayslake

NGSS Units of Study

- Science Bootcamp
- Forces and Gravity
- Energy and Human Impact on the Environment
- Weather and climate change
- Evolution



A Day in Your Student's Shoes

Bell ringer- What do you think will happen if I dip a dollar in water and alcohol and light it on fire? Why?
OR-Should the Illinois Department of Transportation allow self-driving vehicles on the roads? Why or why not?

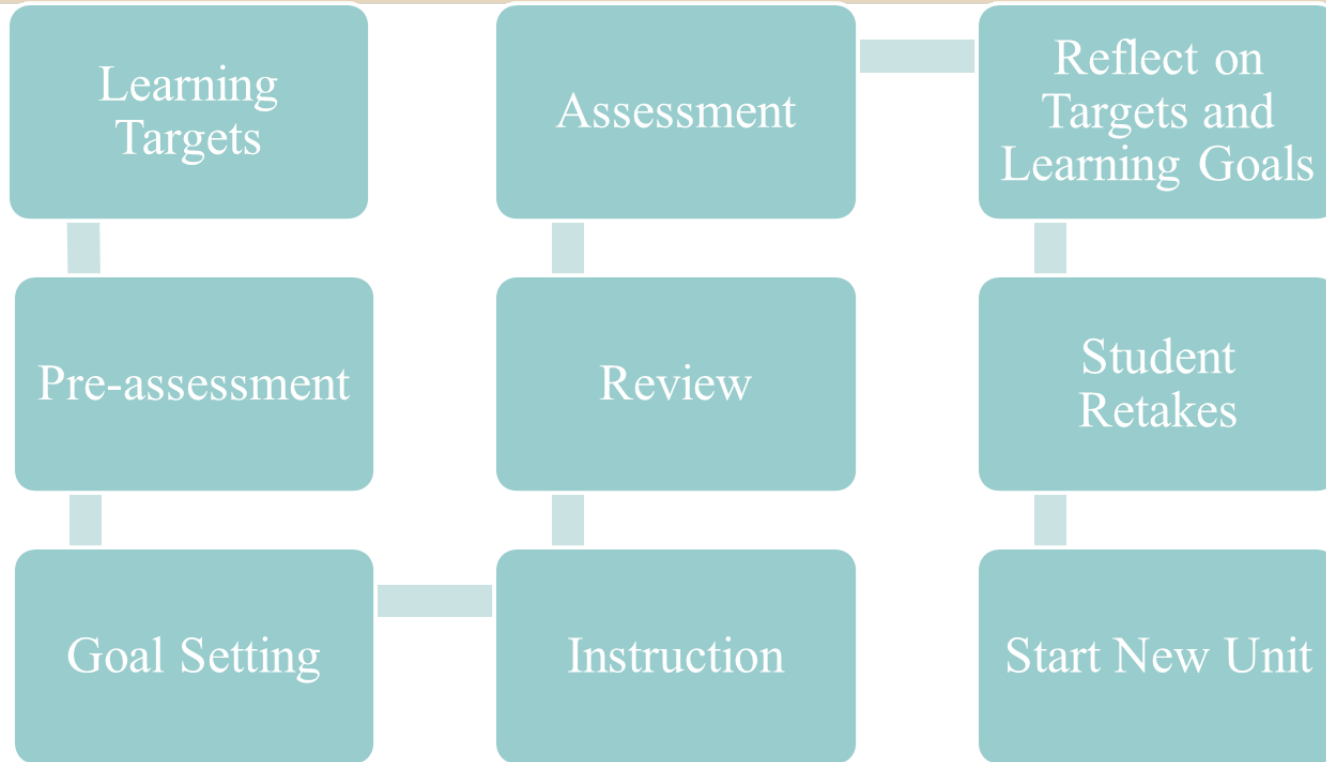


3-5 Structured Activities

- **Inquiry Based Education**—Learning by *doing* science
- Challenging Common Misconceptions
- **Writing and Reading** daily about science through labs, reflections, special projects, developing note-taking skills, reading current science articles or **Science Matters text.**
- Longer writing assignments and special projects occasionally
- **LABS, LABS, LABS**
 - Some structured so that students are guided to address specific concepts and build content knowledge
 - **STEM** or **PBL** activities with open-ended or design challenges
- **Changing teams** of 2,3 and 4 members



Unit Outline for Success

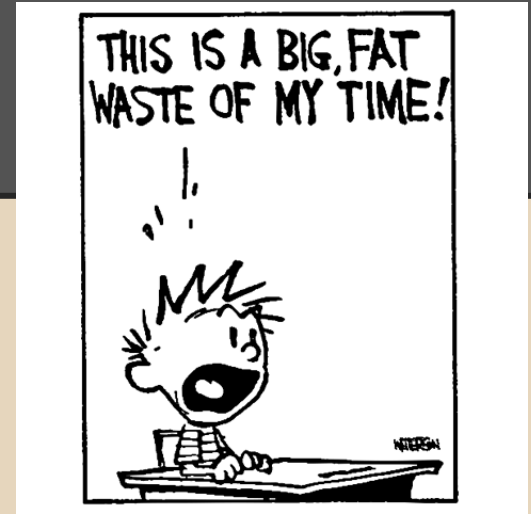


Homework

How often: A few times a week

Types of HW: reading an article, finishing reflections, research, graphing, finishing up short answer questions, study guides, extra help packets.

Late HW: Entered in as 1....can move to 2



District 41 Grading

- 5 Exceptional:** Demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the concepts and performance of the skills
- 4 Proficient:** Demonstrates a secure understanding of the concepts and performance of the skills
- 3 Satisfactory:** Demonstrates a competent understanding of the concepts and performance of the skills
- 2 Beginning:** Demonstrates a beginning understanding of the concepts and skills included in the standard
- 1 Unsatisfactory:** Does not yet demonstrate an understanding of the concepts and cannot perform skills included in the standard.

How that looks in 8th Grade Science

Homework

5 = Exceptional- Extended or applied

4 = Proficient- Turned in on time and excellent quality

3 = Satisfactory- Turned in on time and good quality

2 = Beginning- Turned in late and/or fair quality

1 = Unsatisfactory= Missing or incomplete, poor quality

- Late work may be turned in through the end of the unit for max of 2.
- Any work receiving a 1 for quality, may be resubmitted for a 2.
- Longer assignments/projects have different guidelines/deadlines/grading as they are not typical homework assignments

How that looks in 8th Grade Science

ACADEMIC GRADES in Science are percentage based
(Writing Standard- Rubric Graded)

- 5 95-100%
- 4 85-94%
- 3 75-84%
- 2 67-74%
- 1 66% and below



Keeping Up with Grades with Skyward

- D41 is continuing the use of Skyward Report Card this year.
- We will report grades on quarters/semesters
- September 15th - The parent portal will open
- Additional information will be shared with you on how to access the report card.
- Grades are updated weekly (exception- big projects)



Contact Me

kmatthews@d41.org

Homework calendar & other resources on
matthews131.weebly.com/

Google Classroom

Extension

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Extending NGSS Units of Study

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During Extension Units Students Will...

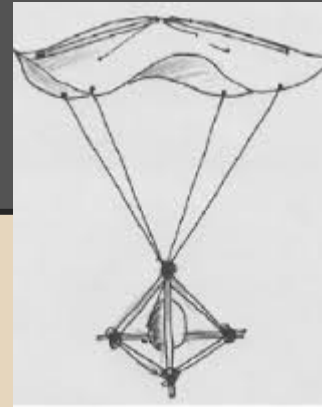
- Improve science and engineering skills
- Improve science reading and writing skills by reading high interest articles and reflecting on text evidence/lab experiences
- Participate in different hands on lab experiences and practice lab write ups
- Design challenges, labs, & projects related to units of study

A Day in Extension

- Bell ringer- *EX: In your opinion, who saves the most lives, scientists or engineers? Explain.*
- Hands on activity
- Reflection
- Review objectives/ practice/ exit pass

Goal: Make sure all students are successful, make sure all students enjoy science, give support/challenges to current reg. Science lessons

Design Challenges



Work Habit Grades

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