

Ms. Montalbano's 7th Grade Pre-AP/GT Science Policies

Bears, welcome to the 2012-2013 school year! I am excited to begin the second year at James Bowie Middle School with you. Listed below are some of the expectations and procedures for 7th grade Pre-AP/GT science at JBMS. Please familiarize yourself with these policies. **With your parents/guardians, log on to <http://montalbanoscience7.weebly.com> to complete the Syllabus Acknowledgement Form by Friday, August 31st at midnight.** This syllabus will stay in your binder all year so we both can have a great year expanding our knowledge!

Welcome to 7th grade!

Welcome to your 7th grade year at Bowie! You will enjoy the familiarity of middle school associated with 7th grade. You will also become aware that your attitude and study habits are crucial to your success this year.

Supplies Needed:

The following supplies should be brought to class everyday beginning Friday:

- 1 inch 3-ring Binder (any color)
- 1 pack of 5-tab dividers
- Continuous supply of notebook paper
- Pencil AND Pen (blue or black ink)
- School Planner

About your Teacher

If your family is able, Ms. Montalbano would greatly appreciate any of the following items throughout the year....

- Roll of paper towels
- Box of tissue
- Hand Sanitizer
- Sandwich/quart/gallon size plastic resealable bags (ex: Ziploc, Hefty)

I am excited to teach 7th grade GT/Pre-AP Science this year at James Bowie Middle School. This will be my fourth year teaching middle school science. I graduated from Texas A&M University and hold a Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Middle School Math & Science as well as a Business minor. I recently graduated from the University of Houston with my Masters in Education in Administration and Supervision.

Classroom Rules & Expectations

- R → Right on Time
- O → Organized & Prepared
- P → Positive & Respectful
- E → Excellent in Cooperation
- S → Scholar's Attitude



Grading Policy

- Major Grades – 50% of the nine week average. There are at least 3 major grades taken for each nine week period.
 - Examples: Chapter/Unit tests, Projects, Complex Labs
- Daily Grades – 50% of the nine week average. There are at least 6 daily grades taken for each nine week period.
 - Examples: Homework, Quizzes, Simple Labs, Participation



Homework Policy

- Completing your homework is a class expectation. It is necessary for your success this year.
- Assignments are posted on the Homework board. Students are expected to copy assignments into their school-provided planner daily.
- Homework is due at the beginning of the period unless otherwise stated.



Parent communication is very important to Ms. Montalbano. Please contact her with concerns by email at

melinda.montalbano@fortbendisd.com.



Page 2: Science Policies

Attendance Policy

- If a student is absent for any reason, the work missed should be requested on the day the student returns. The student is responsible for checking the absent basket and asking Ms. Montalbano for clarification on the assignment. Students will be given 1 day for each day absent to complete the missed work.
- Work assigned before a student was absent is due the day the student returns or it is considered late.



Tutorials

My scheduled tutorials will be Thursday afternoons from 3:55 – 4:30pm. Tutorials are open to all students who need additional help on new concepts, retesting or make-up labs.

My goal is to see each of my students succeed and I am willing to provide extra assistance if you ask me for help. Please ask to come to tutorials at least a day in ADVANCE so I can be fully prepared to help you.



Consequences for Misbehavior

Each student is expected to conduct him/herself in an appropriate manner at all times. If laboratory safety or classroom rules are violated, the following consequences will be enforced:

- Warning (silent or verbal)
- Reflection Time/Removal from Lab area
- Parent Notification
- Detention
- Sent to Office with Discipline Referral

Late Work Policy

Day 1	-10 Points
Day 2	-20 Points
Day 3	-30 Points

*This policy will not apply on every assignment. Being responsible and practicing time management are important skills for high school and for life!

Cheating Policy

Cheating in any form is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this class. Examples of cheating include: copying or “borrowing” from another student, seeking or accepting unauthorized assistance on tests or assignments. Consequences for cheating will result in a zero for that test or assignment and parent contact. Multiple offenses will require disciplinary action.

Let's have a great year! 😊

7th grade Science Curriculum

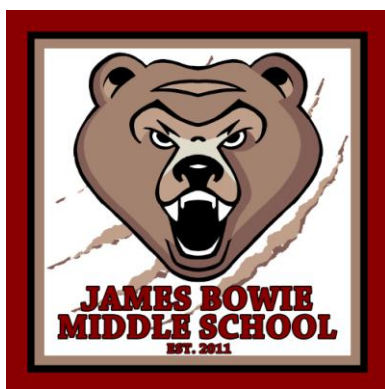
We will mainly focus on Life Science.

ECOLOGY: How do natural and human events affect our environment? What role does ecological succession play in the recovery of an ecosystem?

CELLS/GENETICS: What is the difference in structure and function of animal and plant cell organelles? How do the genetic results of sexual or asexual reproduction differ?

BODY SYSTEMS: What are the functions and structures associated with the circulatory, respiratory, skeletal, muscular, digestive, excretory, reproductive, integumentary, nervous and endocrine systems?

CHANGE OVER TIME: How can dichotomous keys help you identify various organisms by their defining characteristics?



Science Syllabus Acknowledgement

Please complete and return this page to Ms. Montalbano by

Friday, August 31, 2012

Student's Printed Name _____ Period _____

Student's Signature _____

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name _____

Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____

Parent Contact Phone numbers _____ & _____

Parent Email Addresses _____

Does your child have internet access at home for homework assignments or research?

Yes _____ No _____

Does your child wear contact lenses? Yes _____ No _____

Is your child color blind? Yes _____ No _____

What are your expectations of me as your child's science teacher?

What would you like me to know about your child?

Does your child have any health conditions/allergies that would affect lab participation?

