

## **Earth Science – Course Syllabus**

**Mrs. Curry – Room B102 (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Building)**

**Drake Middle School**

**2009 – 2010**

**Text:** STC/MS Catastrophic Events, STC/MS Earth in Space, Earth Science – McDougal Littell

**Materials:** Plastic folder with brads/notebook paper, Binder w/dividers, pencils, 12 pack color pencils, glue sticks

### **Course Description:**

The curriculum for 6<sup>th</sup> grade focuses on Earth and Space Science. We will focus on Earth Science the first semester, and move on to Space Science during the second semester. We will be using two hands-on science modules that cover the objectives outlined in the Alabama Course of Study – Science (Catastrophic Events and Earth in Space). The lessons and labs in the modules are inquiry-based, which allows students to develop critical thinking skills and problem solving abilities. Students will learn the “What” and will be encouraged to seek out the “Why” and “How” of science. Through the support of the teacher and parents, students will be able to tap into their imagination and be provided opportunities for investigation, which enables students to have an active part in learning.

### **Grading Procedures:**

Class Work/Quizzes – Class work consists of lab reports, notes, vocabulary, worksheets and any other material covered during a class period. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced (pop quiz) and will cover recent material that has been discussed in class or performed in lab work. Class work and Quizzes account for 40 percent of science grade.

Homework – Homework assignments are to be turned in next day unless otherwise noted at the time of assignment. Homework accounts for 10 percent of science grade.

Test – A test will be given at the end of each unit, or there may be a test given midway if the unit is extensive. Students will be given a test on unit content as well as vocabulary. Tests account for 50 percent of science grade

Projects – There is a project assigned each nine weeks, whether it is a mini (worth one test grade) or major project (worth two test grades). A mini project usually focuses on something that a student does independently at home and can be completed in a weeks time, whereas a major project is something that a student will work on at home and in the classroom and is usually given 2 to 3 weeks to complete.

### **Grading Scale**

**100 – 90 = A**  
**89 – 80 = B**  
**79 – 70 = C**  
**69 – 60 = D**  
**59 – 0 = F**

**Course Outline: Alabama Sixth Grade Course of Study Alignment to Science Modules**