



**MARINE CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**AS MUSTANGS, WE... ENTER TO GROW, ENGAGE WITH GRIT, & LEAD WITH POWER**  
**#HORSEPOWER**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Science**

Mrs. Shelia Connor  
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REMIND

**Conference Period:** 4<sup>th</sup> Period 10:53-11:38

**Tutoring Opportunities:** 7:45-8:15 Monday and Friday mornings  
Lunch tutorials by appointment

**Class Materials:**

- Composition notebook (no spiral notebooks), Pencils, Notebook Paper, Scissors, Colored Pencils, Glue Sticks
- <https://curiosityplace.schoolspecialty.com> enter username and password
- Digital Tools: CANVAS, STEMscopes, Legends of Learning, Nearpod can all be accessed via SSO
- Access to Canvas, Office365, tools are available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with the advanced skills necessary to be able to use evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena. While much of the focus is on organisms and the environment, the course is built on the following strands: scientific investigations and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; earth and space; and organisms and environment. Advanced critical thinking and problem solving will be developed with individual or group research projects presented in a competitive or public forum. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP program.

**Course Goals:**

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:  
understand the nature of science, plant and animal cells, human body systems, heredity, ecology, plant adaptations, weathering, and erosion.

**Student Evaluation:**

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship

- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

**Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**

Homework is due the next day unless otherwise indicated.

Each six weeks students will be expected to complete the following in the form of homework. There will not be time given in class for these assignments:

1. Projects-Throughout the year, students will be given projects as major grades. These are designed to enhance the students’ knowledge of major topics.
2. Independent Reading-Some independent reading will be required outside of the advanced classroom as needed.
3. Reviewing/Studying for DCA assessments.
4. Final ADI Reports-student will be doing ADI labs over a period of a week or more. The final lab report will be done at home.

**Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:**

Be present **every day** for class. Additionally, make sure you are **always** on time! Instructional time is bell to bell, so if you are not physically present and engaged, you are missing out on valuable learning!

Tardies will be recorded by the teacher and monitored digitally by the main office.

Should you become ill and/or unable to attend class, log into CANVAS to view the assignment for the day or you may see Mrs. Connor when you return. Please note: **YOU** are responsible for any assignments, notetaking, or learning that you missed. This will most likely require that you attend tutorials to make up the missed work. Student have equal time to the days absent plus one day to turn in make up work with full credit.

**Classroom Expectations:**

- Be on time, on task, and prepared to learn every day! (Determination is the key.)
- Follow the Relationship Agreement. (Be the nice kid!)
- Be responsible for your own learning. (Work hard; then play hard!)
- Clean up after yourself and your peers. (Responsibility & kindness matter!)
- Follow all lab rules & expectations.
- Keep all personal electronics off and away. (Unless we are using them for an assignment in class)
- No food, drinks or gum permitted during labs.

**Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

- 1st six weeks-Plant Adaptations, Forces in living things
- 2<sup>nd</sup> six weeks-Ecology
- 3<sup>rd</sup> six weeks-Weathering and Erosion
- 4<sup>th</sup> six weeks-Cell Theory, Plant versus Animal Cells, Organization in Living Organisms
- 5<sup>th</sup> six weeks-Human Body Systems
- 6<sup>th</sup> six weeks-Genetics

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.