Environmental Science Syllabus

**Teacher:** Mrs. Rebecca Walker

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**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to help students develop an understanding of the interactions of organisms with each other and the environment, improve scientific literacy skills, and gain an appreciation for the natural world and local community. Environmental Science is explored from a single species through the ecosystem level and the year concludes with applications to conservation and preservation of our ecosystems. Students improve field and laboratory research skills from field sketching and data collection to experimental design and problem-solving skills. Students learn how to identify and classify organisms, use scientific tools and techniques, and work as a team to investigate their own scientific questions.

**Objectives:** As a student you will be exposed to new scientific language and concepts, technology, and research. You will actively participate in laboratory investigations using the scientific methods to help you develop or strengthen scientific attitudes and interests. You will be encouraged and guided towards taking an independent responsibility in your own learning, which will prepare you for college, technical school, and/or the work place.

**Class Requirements:**

1. Textbook: National Geographic Learning; Environmental Science Sustaining Your World
2. A lab fee of $10.00 (a student on free or reduced lunch may not be required to pay the lab fee, but must complete a FEE WAIVER FORM and be approved).
3. A composition notebook is required. All other supplies needed will be told to you in advance.

**Makeup work:** Makeup work is the sole responsibility of the student. All missed class work, test, projects, etc. (whether from excused or unexcused absence) is/are required to be made up.  All make-up work will be due within three (3) days of absence. For multiple consecutive absences, the teacher and student will meet together to determine a fair due date of missed assignments. There will be a point deduction of 10% daily.

**Grading System:** All assignments are graded on a point system.  The number of points for each assignment will vary depending on the type of assignment and the complexity of the assignment. For example, tests, labs, and projects will be assigned more points than classwork assignments. To calculate the student’s average, the total number of points earned is divided by the total number of points possible.

Grading Policy:  A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C= 70-79% D= 60-69% F= Below 59%