

# Earth History Syllabus

Spring 2022

## Instructor Information

Instructor	Email	
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## General Information

### Description

In this unit of study, we will make observations and perform investigations about the formation of the Earth by studying rocks and rock formations from the Grand Canyon.

### Expectations and Goals

Students will make observations and do investigations that involve constructing and using conceptual models. They will generate questions for investigation, which may lead to new questions. Through their study of Earth history, students should become more confident in their ability to ask good questions and to recognize and use evidence from the rocks to come up with explanations of past environments.

## Course Materials

### Required Materials

All necessary materials will be provided. No text book is required in this unit, a resource book will remain in the classroom at all times. Information about the 6th Grade program FOSS can be found here: [https://www.fossweb.com/MS\\_families](https://www.fossweb.com/MS_families) The following materials must be brought to class every day to avoid being unprepared for class.

- Student Laptop
- Student Agenda
- Writing Utensil
- Homework assignments

### Unit Overview

This unit of study has eight separate investigations that will span the entirety of the second semester. Each investigation builds upon the next investigation, so attendance is very important so that no instruction and material is missed. Information is available online and a login sheet will be sent home separately for parents and students to use at home. The science notebook is an extremely important piece of this class. All notes, investigations, and questions will be recorded in the science notebook, and students will be able to use notebooks on ALL tests. The instructor will model appropriate notetaking strategies, but it is important for parents to stress the importance of taking detailed and legible notes during class time.

## Course Schedule

Week*	Topic	PA State Standards <a href="https://www.pdesas.org/Standard/View">https://www.pdesas.org/Standard/View</a>
1-3	Earth Is Rock -Landforms around Earth -Grand Canyon Rocks -Rock Layer Correlation	S.6.D.1.1.2
3-5	Weathering and Erosion -Stream Table -Weathering -Soils	3.3.7.A1
5-7	Deposition -Sandstone and Shale -Limestone -Interpreting Sedimentary Layers	3.3.7.A1
7-9	Fossils and Past Environments -Fossils -Earth's Timeline -Index Fossils	3.3.7.A3
9-11	Igneous Rocks -Earth's Layers -Salol Crystals -Types of Igneous Rock	3.3.7.A6
11-12	Volcanoes and Earthquakes -Mapping Volcanoes and Earthquakes -Moving Continents -Plate Tectonics	3.3.7.A6
12-14	Mountains and Metamorphic Rocks -Plate Models -Metamorphic Rocks	3.3.8.A6
14-16	Geo Scenarios -Introduction to the Project -Telling the Geological story of a place.	
16-18	What is Earth's Story?	

	-The geological story of the Grand Canyon -Recycling of Earth material through constructive and destructive process.	
* Weekly timeline is tentative, topics will follow the order above.		

## Exam Schedule

Exams will follow each investigation and will be open notebook.

## Additional Information and Resources

### Writing in Science

Putting scientific notes and data into writing is one of the most important pieces to becoming a contributor to the scientific community. We will be working with the writing teacher and our KTO coordinator to develop our notes and data into summative conclusions and reflections that will complete each investigation. These will be works in progress throughout the unit of study and will be graded.