**Water Valley Independent School District**

**8th Grade Science Syllabus**

**Teacher:** Jenny Sims

**Campus:** Water Valley Junior High School

**Course Description:** In 8th Grade Science, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking, scientific problem solving, and reasoning skills. Students study a variety of topics that include: matter and energy, relationship between force, motion, and energy, effects of the cyclical movements of the Sun, Earth, and Moon, characteristics of the universe, impact of natural events on Earth systems, interactions between the Earth, oceans, and weather patterns, interdependence among living systems, the environment, and the impact of human activities on living systems.

**Grading Procedure:** 50% for tests and projects; 50% for class work, homework, and lab assignments

**First Semester Material:** atomic structure and use of the Periodic Table, chemical formulas/ equations/and reactions, force and motion, Newton’s laws, global weather patterns

**Second Semester Material:** forces that change the Earth, Earth’s cycles (lunar phases, season, and tides), components of the universe, interdependence among living things

**Homework Rules/Missing Work:** When homework is assigned, it will be due on the next day or on a date given by the teacher. Points will be deducted for each day late. After three days, the student will receive a zero for the missing assignment.

**Tutorials:** Tutorial times can be set up at the student’s request before or after school with prior notice and clear communication between the teacher, student, and parent. With proper communication, the student can also utilize the tutorial period during the day.

**Policy for Make-Up Assignments:** It is the student’s responsibility to get and complete his/her make-up work. If you know you are going to be absent or leave school early, you should check with the teacher in advance to see if there are any assignments/quizzes to be taken and make arrangements for make-up. This applies to school sponsored activities, doctor’s appointments, out of town trips, etc. The due date will be decided by your teacher.

**Google Classroom:** Every student is required to join our Google classroom. Please use the class

code to join: **6vnhfwr**  *Please have this done by* ***Wednesday, August 16, 2023.*** We will only use this during times of excessive absences or if we do not finish something in class and you will need access to the information from class to finish. (I.e. task cards, station cards, reviews…).

**Materials Needed:** 3-ring binder or folder with pockets and brads, notebook paper, composition book, pens and pencils, map colors, scissors, glue or glue stick.  **\*\*Note:**  There may be other project supplies required and advance notice will be given before these supplies will be needed in class. **\*Optional: Kleenex, Clorox /Lysol Disinfecting Wipes and/or quart-size Ziploc bags.**

**Expectations for the Classroom:** *Be on time and come prepared with supplies, assignments, and all necessary materials. Be respectful to me, your classmates, and the classroom. Work hard and always do your very best! Put your phones away and be focused on being successful! Show up every day with a positive attitude and ready to work!*

**Conference Period:** Sixth Period, 1:19 pm – 2:05 pm

**Phone:**  325-484-2478 x 202 **My Email:** jennifer.sims@wvisd.net