

A photograph of a galaxy, likely a barred spiral galaxy, viewed at an angle. The galaxy has a bright, glowing central core and a curved, elongated structure. The background is a dark night sky with a few scattered stars, including a prominent bright star in the lower-left corner.

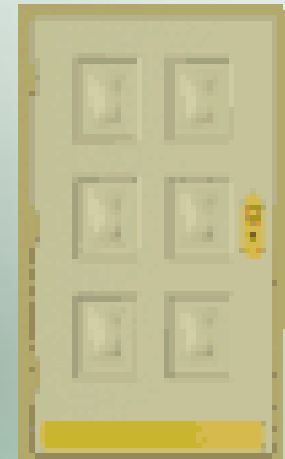
**Welcome to Open House 2011**

**Team Supernova**



# General Information

About the world your child has entered...



# What is a Middle Schooler?

Author Unknown

What is a Middle Schooler?

I was asked one day.

I knew what he was,

But what should I say?

He is noise and confusion,

He is silence that is deep.

He is sunshine and laughter,

Or a cloud that will weep.

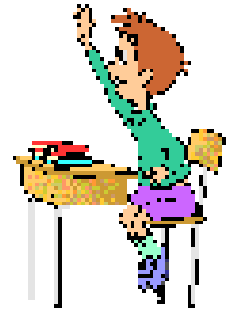


He is swift as an arrow,

He is a waster of time.

He wants to be rich,

But he cannot save a dime.



He is rude and nasty,

He is polite as can be.

He wants parental guidance,

But fights to be free.



He is aggressive and bossy,

He is timid and shy.

He knows all the answers,

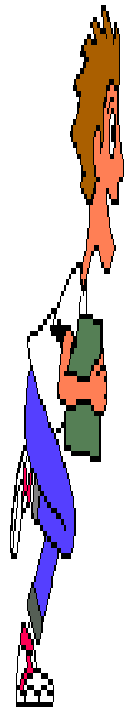
But still asks, “Why”.

He is awkward and clumsy,

He is graceful and poised.

He is ever changing,

But do not be annoyed.





What is a Middle Schooler?

I was asked one day.

He is the future unfolding,

So do not stand in his way.

# **Student Expectations**

The 3 R's





# Be Responsible

- Bringing all your materials to class
- Completing your homework daily
- Staying on task
- Showing class work to parents



# Be Reliable

- Being on time to class
- Always being honest
- Working together
- Taking turns / Doing your fair share



# Be Respectful

- Treating others the way you would like to be treated
- Keeping your hands and feet to yourself
- Be encouraging
- Helping others
- Listening to others / One voice at a time
- Doing what is expected of you

# Homework

- **ALL** homework should be completed and turned in on time!
- **School-wide Reading**  
**Expectation:** All students **MUST** read 20-30 minutes each night!

# Revising Work

- “A student will be provided with an opportunity(ies) to re-take an assessment or comparable assessment (other than Common Task assessments) within ten (10) school days.”
- (Grading Policy adopted by ASFMS)



**Working Together...**





# Promoting Learning for LEARNERS

Students perform best in the classroom, not because the teacher demands it, but because the classroom expectations are clear and attainable. Cooperative Literacy makes explicit the classroom expectations by setting the standard of learner behaviors and attaching a point system. It is through the development of these behaviors that our students feel satisfaction...

"(There is) an important psychological principle that cognitive development is inseparable from social and cultural development... This view of learning places social interaction at the heart of learning" (Henry Trueba, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Wisconsin).

# Cooperative Literacy

- **Implies an obligation** of ALL members to the school community to increase literacy and numeracy skills of students
  - *Students, teachers, personnel who assist in classroom, and parents*
- **Provides a means** to manifest this responsibility in development of:
  - *Reading, writing, thinking and communication*

*Klemp, 1992*



# Impact of Collaboration and Cooperation on Learning

- A move toward self-motivation
- All participants responsible in the classroom



# *English/Language Arts*

*"Reading is to the mind what exercise  
is to the body."*

# ELA Instruction

*It is our core belief that reading skills are at the center of a child's overall literacy development. Combined with writing instruction and speaking, viewing and listening components; reading a wide array of texts with varying complexity levels should be a daily occurrence for all students. The teaching of reading should include explicit and direct instruction of reading strategies for literary text, informational text and non-print text.*

# *ELA Expectations*

## *Strands*

*Breadth of Reading*

*Response to Literature*

- *Basic Understanding/Analysis and Interpretation*

*Modes of Writing*

*Conventions and Grammar*

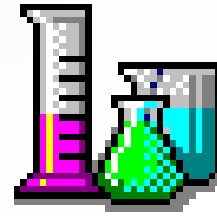


# ELA Expectations

Standard Homework - Six  
independent responses to  
literature (Quote Sandwiches)  
per Trimester.



Writing assignments begin in  
school and continue at home.



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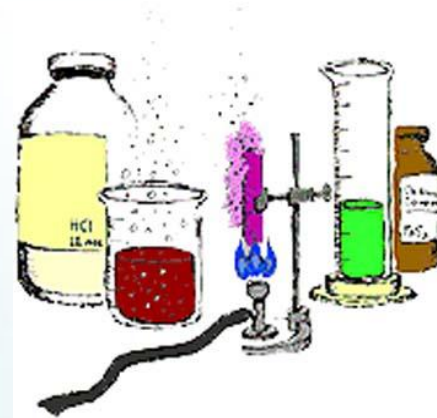
# Science

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# Science Curriculum

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- Properties of Matter
  - Characteristic Properties
  - Mixtures & Solutions
  - Elements
- Catastrophic Events
  - Storms
  - Earthquakes
  - Rock Cycle



# Science Expectations

**Science Concepts** - Can you relate the facts and explain the ideas? This grade reflects what you have shown about how much content you understand.

**Science Skills** - How well can you observe, predict, hypothesize, investigate, infer? Use your brainpower to think like a scientist!

**Written & Oral Communication** - Can you use your language arts skills to communicate about science? This includes notes, reports, stories and what you have to say in class!

# Science Homework

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- Expect your child to have homework in Science **3-4 times per week**
- This may range from reviewing their daily notes, to a lab report or project
- On average, not more than 30 minutes of homework per night

# Lab Safety

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- ✓ Students are expected to follow the Lab Safety Rules at all times
- ✓ Safety Contracts should be signed and returned
- ✓ Safety goggles are provided for students, when necessary



# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

World History

# Curriculum Units

- World History – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Units:

**Early Humans**

**Ancient Egypt and the Near East**

**Ancient India**

**Ancient China**

**& Ongoing Current Events**

# Grade Span Thematic Essential Questions

## How does understanding the past help us to understand the present?

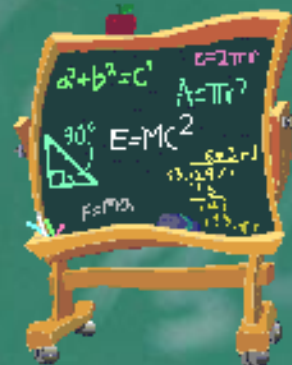
- Why do people live and move where they do?
- Why do people live the way they do?
- How and why do humans organize their societies the way they do?
- How does technology affect people's lives?
- How has conflict and cooperation shaped human history?
- How has the quest for resources affected human history?
- How do we know what we know about human history?
- Why do civilizations rise and decline?

# Class Website

- “This Week” - Weekly Class Agenda
- All lessons, videos, presentations, textbook, etc... are online
- Online Grades
- Web-based Email Account
- If you're not online at home?

[Mr. Mitchell's Social Studies Class](#)

# Math



# Units of Study

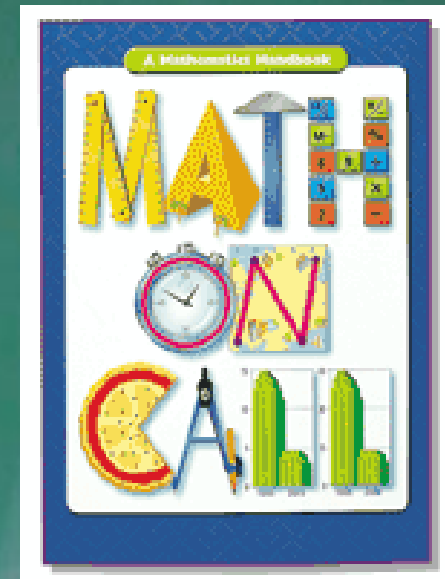
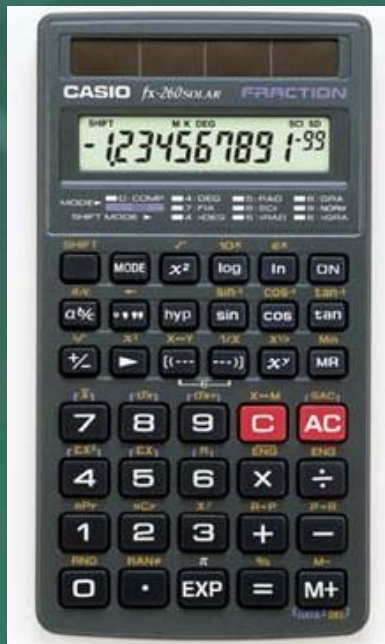
- *Stretching and Shrinking* (Similarity)
- *Comparing and Scaling* (Rates and Ratios)
- *Filling and Wrapping* (Surface Area and Volume)
- Introductory Algebra (Integers and Equations)
- *Moving Straight Ahead* (Linear Relationships)
- Plane Geometry (Angle Relationships, Flips, Slides, Rotations)

# Homework

Homework varies in design, and is crucial to students success.

- Linked to class and used the next day for lesson!
- Practice of a necessary skill
- Problem Solving
- On average, not more than 30 minutes!

# Tools Available for Purchase



Casio FX-260  
\$12  
Need It!

TI-83 Plus \$100  
Maybe?

\$ 26  
Great Resource  
for Home!

# Accepting Donations

We welcome any help we can get in providing supplies to our students.

- Hand Sanitizer
- Kleenex
- Pencils
- Gluesticks
- Colored Markers
- Colored Pencils

The Supernova Team

**Thanks You!**



# Ink – Recycling Fundraiser



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# Dress Code – We're glad you are wearing underwear, but don't need to see it!



# Does your child smell?



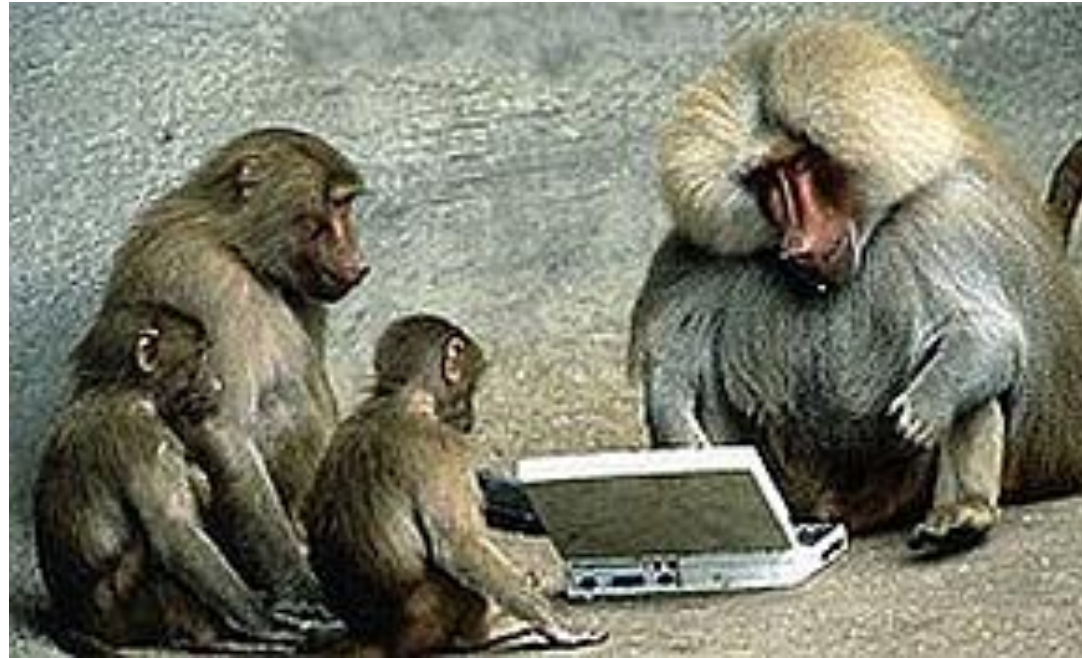
Remember: Deodorant and bathing regularly is not just about YOU. It's about everyone else. Please have this conversation with your child.

# Field Trips

- Camp Champlin: Challenge Course
- Exchange City...
- Others???



# Stay in Touch!



**Email** is the most effective way to reach us.  
Otherwise, call us 822-9426.