



**Mrs. Caterina Braun**  
**7<sup>th</sup> grade Life Science and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Earth Science**  
**Pitcher Junior High**

### **Welcome!!!**

I am very excited that you are here! We are going to learn a lot in science that you can use to build your future. Here is some information to make our year successful.

### **I. UNITS OF STUDY:**

**Life Science (7<sup>th</sup> grade):** Chemistry of Life, Plant and Animal Cells, Living Organisms, Ecology, Balance within Ecosystems, Reproduction and Heredity, Health and Diseases, Food webs and Cycles of matter.

**Earth Science (8<sup>th</sup> grade):** Properties of Matter, Earth's Crust, Geologic History of Earth, Landforms and Topography, Factors that affect Earth, Earth's Forces, Astronomy and Space Exploration, Pollution and It's Effects.


### **II. GRADES**

You earn your grades in the form of percentages, not letter grades. Your class grade is divided into two categories: daily activities (80% of your quarter grade) and the quarter exam (20% of your quarter grade). Daily activities may include bell work, class work, homework, vocabulary, quizzes, tests, projects, and laboratory assignments.

Grading	Scale
100-93	A
92-85	B
84-75	C
74-67	D
66-below	F

### **A. Homework/ Class work**

- Paper Heading: Label on all homework / class work in the following format:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Period</b>
<b>Assignment Title</b>		

- Assignments will be completed neatly in pencil or in blue/black ink. Assignments in red ink will not be accepted. If I cannot read it, I cannot grade it.
- Assignments are to be turned in on time. Late assignments will be penalized.
- If you do not have your homework, turn in an index card explaining the reason why in place of your homework.

### **B. Test/Quizzes**

Chapter tests and Unit tests will be given at the end of each section/unit. Tests are comprehensive covering all the material in a chapter or unit.

### **C. Quarter Exams**

A Quarterly Exam is required at the end of each nine-week period. It will include all material that was covered throughout the grading period. The exam is worth 20% of the nine-week grade.

### **III. AGENDAS**

All students are issued an agenda to record homework. I expect my students to use this valuable organizational tool to record all assignments, upcoming tests, and projects. It is your responsibility to have the agenda daily in class and use it accordingly. Parents are encouraged to check the agenda daily.

### **IV. CLASSROOM RULES**

- Be on time to class.
- Have all necessary materials
- Follow directions
- Treat each person in the class with respect.
- No food or drink is allowed in the class or lab.

Classroom Rules are posted in the classroom.

## V. CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

### A. Entering the Classroom

1. Please enter quietly.
2. Have a seat.
3. Take out your materials.
4. Copy the objective from the board.
5. Begin Daily Science Activity immediately. Do not wait for the bell or a signal from me to begin working.

### B. What to do if you Finish Class Work Early

- Work on unfinished Science assignments.
- Work on vocabulary words.
- Start working on tonight's homework.

### C. Classroom Discussions

- PLEASE participate.
- I want to hear what you have to say.
- Make all questions and comments relevant to the current discussion.
- If your question is off the topic, write it down and ask later.

### D. Getting Your Attention

There may be times when I may need to get everyone's undivided attention so that I may give directions, explanations, answer group questions, etc. When I need everyone to stop talking and pay attention to me: I will say "**Class, your attention please**" and raise my hand. When you see me raise my hand, you must:

1. Raise your hand and keep it up until I put mine down.
2. Stop talking and look at me. This should take no more than 10 sec.
3. Wait for me to speak.

### E. Moving Around the Classroom

- Stay in your seat during lecture and whole class discussions.
- Sharpening pencils is only allowed during independent work.
- Only one person at a time is allowed at the pencil sharpener.

### F. Class Dismissal

- Please stay seated until the bell rings.
- I will tell you when it is appropriate to start packing.

### G. After an Absence.

H. Get notes /handouts from the class folder.

I. Copy any assigned work in your planner.

J. Sign the homework log .

Students will have 2 days upon returning to school to make arrangements with the teacher.

### K. When you are tardy

1. Enter quietly.

#### • **Excused:**

Place excuse in the basket on my desk.

#### • **Unexcused:**

Minor Tracking Form will be filled out.

### L. Restroom Policy

- You may go to the restroom only if the class is working on Individual assignments (no passes during Teacher or Guest Lecture).
- Only 1 person may be out at any given time.
- If permission is given to go to the restroom, you need to have your student planner marked by the teacher.
- You have **5** hall passes per nine weeks.