

August 30, 2005

Dear Students,

Welcome to Aberdeen High School Earth Science. I hope that Science will be an enjoyable year for you. In order for that to happen, we need to communicate with each other. If you ever need to discuss your progress in class, or have questions about lessons or grades, it would be best to make an appointment to stay with me after school or email me at [Yvonne.gabriel@hcps.org](mailto:Yvonne.gabriel@hcps.org). In return I will do my best to communicate any concerns with your academic progress in a timely manner. In order to prevent any inconveniences, you will find a list of expected materials, rules, grade expectations, and a syllabus which will be upheld all year in Earth Science. Please read the list with your parent / guardian and attach it to your notebook. Also, read, sign, and turn in the form below, acknowledging your understanding of expectations in class this year.

Respectfully,

Yvonne Gabriel, NBCT  
Harford County Public Schools

(sign, tear, and return the form below)

Please READ the enclosed pages and sign that you understand the following:

- I have read and understand the safety rules and first aid information. I recognize my responsibility and pledge to observe all safety rules in the science classroom at all time. I further understand that if I do not follow all safety rules I will be removed from the lab and receive a zero on my assignment.
- I have read the list of materials and understand that I must have all those materials with me in class every day.
- I have read the syllabus and am aware of the topics we will be exploring in Earth Science this year.
- I have read the grading policies and further understand that I EARN my grade. I understand how to earn an A and how to earn a D. I will do my best to earn good grades, and will not wait to ask for help.

Student name (printed)	Student email address
Student signature	
Class section	Textbook #
Parent name and phone number	

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# **1. MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR EVERY DAY IN EARTH SCIENCE CLASS:**

- Pencils / pens
- Notebook, with an Earth Science Section, in a 3 ring binder
- Notebook PAPER!!!!
- Colored pencils, and clear tape are optional and recommended (but not required)
- Textbook, EVERYDAY (unless told otherwise)

**2. SYLLABUS (APPROXIMATE)** - Topics of Earth Science include *Geology, Oceanography, Meteorology, and Astronomy*. The objectives for units and individual lessons are primarily dictated by the MSDE (Maryland State Department of Education) Science Standards document and by the HCPS (Harford County Public Schools) Science Curriculum. The topics are visited in eight units, as follows:

First Quarter	Third Quarter
Chapter 1 – Nature of Science	Chapter 20 – Mountain Building
Chapter 2 – Mapping Our World	Chapter 21 – Fossils and the Rock Record
Chapter 3 – Matter and Atomic Structure	Chapter 22 – Precambrian Earth
Chapter 4 – Minerals	Chapter 23 – Paleozoic Era
Chapter 5 – Igneous Rocks	Chapter 24 – Mesozoic and Cenozoic Eras
Chapter 6 – Sedimentary and Metamorphic Rocks	Chapter 25 - Earth Resources
Chapter 7 - Weathering, Erosion, and Soil	Chapter 26 - Energy Resources
Chapter 8 - Mass Movements, Wind, and Glaciers	Chapter 27 - Human Impact on Earth Resources
Chapter 9 - Surface Water	Fourth Quarter
Chapter 10 - Groundwater	Chapter 28 – The Sun-Earth-Moon System
Chapter 11 - Atmosphere	Chapter 29 – Our Solar System
Second Quarter	Chapter 30 – Stars
Chapter 12 - Meteorology	Chapter 31 – Galaxies and the Universe
Chapter 13 - The Nature of Storms	
Chapter 14 – Climate	
Chapter 15 – Physical Oceanography	
Chapter 16 – The Marine Environment	
Chapter 17 – Plate Tectonics	
Chapter 18 – Volcanic Activity	
Chapter 19 – Earthquakes	

## **2. GRADING POLICIES**

You are graded on total points. Points will be earned as follows:

Task	Possible Points
Classwork / Labs / Projects	10 - 50
Homework	5 -10
Tests and quizzes	20-50
Extra Credit	NOT APPLICABLE

- ⇒ Remember that points may be deducted from your grade for disruptive or other inappropriate behavior
- ⇒ If you are absent from class, and it is an excused absence, you **MUST** make up the work and Test/ Quiz **immediately** upon your return to school (after 1 week, the work becomes a zero). Do not expect me to search you out; it is your responsibility to make up work immediately. See the AHS student handbook for making up work.
- ⇒ Just stay on task and do your best, and you will enjoy the luxuries of earning good grades.

