

**7 Gold Science**  
**Elizabeth Broadwater – Room 403**  
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**Text: Science Plus – Technology and Society**  
**Prentice Hall Science Explorer- Astronomy**

The textbook will be handed out when we are using it later this year. Each student will receive a copy to keep at home. A classroom copy will be available for use at school.

**Course Content:**

**Scientific Method / Skills of Inquiry**

- Investigative questions, observations, and inference
- Metric system: estimation and measurement
- Experimental Design

**Astronomy**

- Solar System
- Milky Way
- Rotation/revolution/seasons
- Phases of the moon
- Eclipses/Tides
- Return to the Moon – Field Trip to the Challenger Center at Framingham State College (October 19th and 20th)

**Earth Science: The Restless Earth**

- Plate tectonics
- Earthquakes and Volcanoes
- Igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks
- Fossils
- Geological Time Scale

**Life Science: Interactions**

- Interactions between biotic and abiotic parts of the environment
- Habitat vs. Niche
- Food Chain / Food Web relationships
- Population Changes
- Succession

**Life Science: Diversity of Living Things**

- Reasons for diversity / Adaptations
- Natural Selection / Evolution
- Classification

**Notebooks:**

Students are expected to keep an organized notebook in science. While we use various textbooks throughout the year, the main resource for students is their science notebook.

**Grading Policy:**

Report card grades are based on:

Homework and Class work = 40%

Lab Reports, Projects, Tests and Quizzes = 60%

There will be a comprehensive final exam at the end of the year.

**Homework:**

Homework is an extremely important part of a student's work. Homework is due at the beginning of the class period. Assignments are posted on the board the day they are assigned. Students are expected to copy down homework assignments into their plan book each day. Homework is also posted on [www.schoolnotes.com](http://www.schoolnotes.com). Late assignments will be accepted up to two classes past the due date. A full grade (10 points) will be deducted for each class the assignment is late.

**Absences:**

When students are absent they are expected to make up all work as soon as possible. Students should plan on coming to extra help to make up labs and activities done in class. If work is not made up in a reasonable amount of time it will be counted as a 0%.

**Extra Help:**

Extra help is offered 1-3 times a week after school from 2:15 – 3 or 3:30pm. Dates are posted each Friday for the following week on the homework board and on [www.schoolnotes.com](http://www.schoolnotes.com). This is an opportunity for students to make up any missed work, get help on assignments they are having difficulties with, finish labs or review for tests. If there is a conflict with the times posted for the week, students can make arrangements to come before school.