Course Overview: Science 7
In this course, students will explore their connection to and place within the natural world by engaging in the practices of science.

Units and Activities: What will we be learning about and doing in this course?
Scientists are naturally curious and inquisitive. We will fuel our exploration with deep thinking questions. Although your questions and curiosity will drive our journey, we will use the following as a jumping off point:

- Climate change: How and why is our climate changing and what is my role in slowing climate change?
- Energy and our environment: How are matter and energy cycled through our environment?
- Life at the cellular level: How do cells act as the building blocks of life?
- Genetics and Evolution: How are genes passed from one generation to the next? How has life changed our Earth and how has our Earth changed life?

Standards: What skills will I gain by the end of this course?
This course will assess the knowledge and skills students build in key Anchor Standards:

- **Developing and using models:** I can make my thinking visible to others using a variety of modeling strategies.
- **Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions:** I can make a claim supported by evidence and reasoning.
- **Obtaining, Evaluating and Communicating Information:** I can clearly and effectively present information in a variety of important formats.

Team Pathfinders is an interdisciplinary team that includes Global Studies, English, Science, and Math. We collaborate to meet the social, emotional, intellectual, and physical needs of 7th-grade students. Part of that is a set of common expectations. These include:

1. **Hydration!** Your brain needs water to function at its highest levels. Please bring a filled water bottle to class.
2. **Communication:** There may be times when you have to miss class. Please e-mail us or see us in person before or after school to check in about what you missed.
3. **Engagement:** We care deeply about your learning. Please help us by arriving on time with the materials you need to be fully present in class.

Assessment of Learning:
For information about assessment types, scoring, and overall grade calculation: [click here.]

**Communication:**

**How Do I Access Work from Home, and What Should I Expect?**
- All work will be posted in Google Classroom.
- The work will be explained during our in-person meetings and/or by video posted to Google Classroom.
- The work will also be explained in our Class Planner posted to Google Classroom.
- If you have any questions, email your teacher.

**How Do I Know What My Grades Are?**
- On Summative Assessments, teachers will provide both a 4-point grade and a letter grade.
- You can monitor your progress in the following ways:
  - By reading feedback and scoring returned to students on summative assessments.
  - By monitoring the scores and Overall Course Mastery Grade in the Parent/Student portal on JumpRope. Reminders to check grades will be sent from the school.
  - Communicating with your teacher if you are unclear.

**Where Can I Find This Syllabus during the School Year?**
- This syllabus will be available on the school website in each subject’s department tab once the school year is up and running. It will also be available in our Google Classroom.

**How Do I See What’s Due?**
- Assignment and summative assessment due dates with handouts are posted in Google Classroom, with connection to Google Calendar, for student access.

**How Do I See What’s Past Due?**
- If a student is missing a grade on an assessment, it will be listed in the red “Missing Assessment” section of the JumpRope Parent/Student Portal along with any attachments. Please contact your teacher if you have any questions.

**Materials:**
You will be given a three-subject notebook which you will need to bring to Science, Global Studies and English each day.

**Schoolwide Procedures:**
Please see the Student Handbook for Procedures and Policies related to: Due dates and deadlines, extra credit, retaking assessments, and turnaround time for grade entry.

**Personal Mobile Devices:** This class will follow the procedures outlined in the student handbook.

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