

OHHS Special Education Department

Course Syllabus



Course Name: Basic Science

Course Description:

This course changes focus on a rotating annual basis to cover Earth and space science, life sciences and physical science. Students are encouraged to explore problems and answer questions using the Scientific Method. The course focuses on hands-on and project-based learning and it is designed to make grade-level standards accessible to students with special needs.

Prerequisites

Placement for this course is determined by IEP team decision.

Course Resources

Teacher-created materials differentiated for each student.

Course Fees

None.

Course Outline/Instructional Units

The course is designed to teach students the same content as their typical peers, but leveled and differentiated to make the concepts accessible to students with complex needs. The course incorporates hands-on experiences and encourages students to think like a scientist by asking questions and making observations and predictions. Space and Earth science units covered include: plate tectonics, the Earth's interior, continents, oceans, landforms, and rocks and minerals. Life science units cover the principles of heredity and understanding the structure and function of cells and organisms. Physical science units cover the structure and property of matter, the sources and properties of energy and the forces of motion.

Assessments

Student grades are based on participation and effort. Data is collected regularly on each student's individual goal progress. Students in the class maintain a portfolio of their work and are expected

to participate in assessing their own progress as able. Parents/Guardians receive a quarterly progress report on IEP goal progress.

Homework

Homework is not generally assigned. If students wish to be challenged with extra work at home, that can be arranged on a case-by-case basis.

Grading Scale:

Regular Scale	
Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93% and Above
A -	90%-92.99%
B+	87%-89.99%
B	83%-86.99%
B-	80-82.99%
C+	77%-79.99%
C	73-76.99%
C-	70-72.99%
D+	67%-69.99%
D	60%-66.99%
F	59.99% and Below