



Grade Level Introduction:
Middle School Science
2016-2017

Teacher Contact Information

Mrs. Patricia Olson

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Grade Level Description

At Casas Christian School, Middle School students are encouraged to “learn science by doing science.” The Middle School has a fully equipped science lab where students are provided with many hands-on activities designed to enhance learning, develop problem-solving skills, engage students in cooperative learning and develop critical thinking skills. Students attend a 50 minute science class each school day and are required to complete one or more laboratory experiments each week. Sixth and Seventh Grade students develop, implement and present their own experiments in the CCS Science Fair. Winners from each grade level go on to participate in the Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

The content area studied is unique to each grade level. Sixth grade students learn about the nature of matter, earth science (including rocks and minerals, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes, surface and groundwater systems, and meteorology), and astronomy. Seventh grade students learn about life and environmental science with in-depth studies of ecosystems, cells, microorganisms, plants, and animals. In Eighth Grade, the emphasis is on chemistry and physics, including force, energy, and motion, electricity and magnetism, as well as sound and light. In each of the content areas, the curriculum meets or exceeds state and national standards, and emphasis is placed on a biblical worldview of God’s creation.

Grade Level Resources

6th Grade:

Holt, Rinehart, and Winston - Introduction to Matter; Astronomy
ACSI - Earth Science

7th Grade:

Holt, Rinehart, and Winston - Environmental Science; Microorganisms, Fungi, and Plants; Animals; Cells, Heredity, and Classification
Coldwater Media – Icons of Evolution;
Lifeway Press – How Now Shall We Live by Charles Colson and Nancy Percy

8th Grade:

Holt, Rinehart, and Winston - Forces, Motion, and Energy; Introduction to Matter; Interactions of Matter; Sound and Light; Electricity and Magnetism

Special Events & Field Trips

6th Grade: Geology and History focused Field Trip to Northern Arizona, including the Grand Canyon, Walnut Canyon, and many other places.

7th Grade: Field Trip to Catalina Island Marine Institute to learn about marine ecosystems. Includes snorkeling and kayaking.

Grade Level Weighting

Unit Tests	10%
Quizzes	35%
Labs	35%
Homework	10%
<u>Science Log</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

MS Report Card Weighting

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Bible	1.0
Math	1.0
Language Arts	1.0
Science	1.0
History	1.0
PE	0.6
Health	0.4
Discovery Classes	0.4