



Curriculum Chat Night

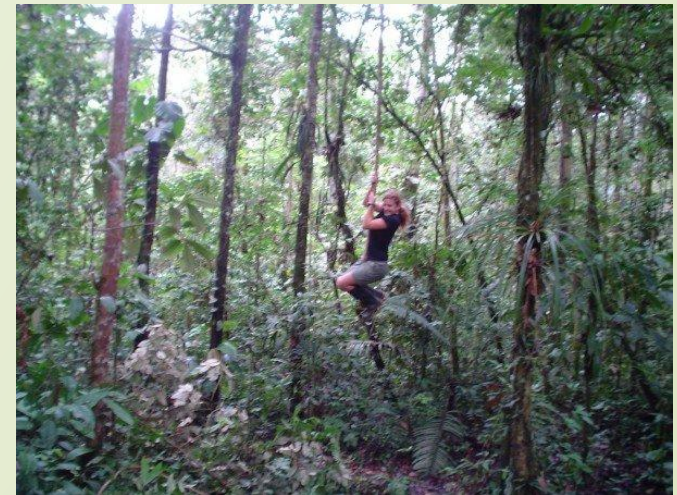
Pine Island Academy

8/28/25

Mrs. Mendenhall

A little about me

- Bachelors degree in Wildlife Ecology from UF, Masters Degree in Ecology from UNC- Chapel Hill
- Teaching for 10 years



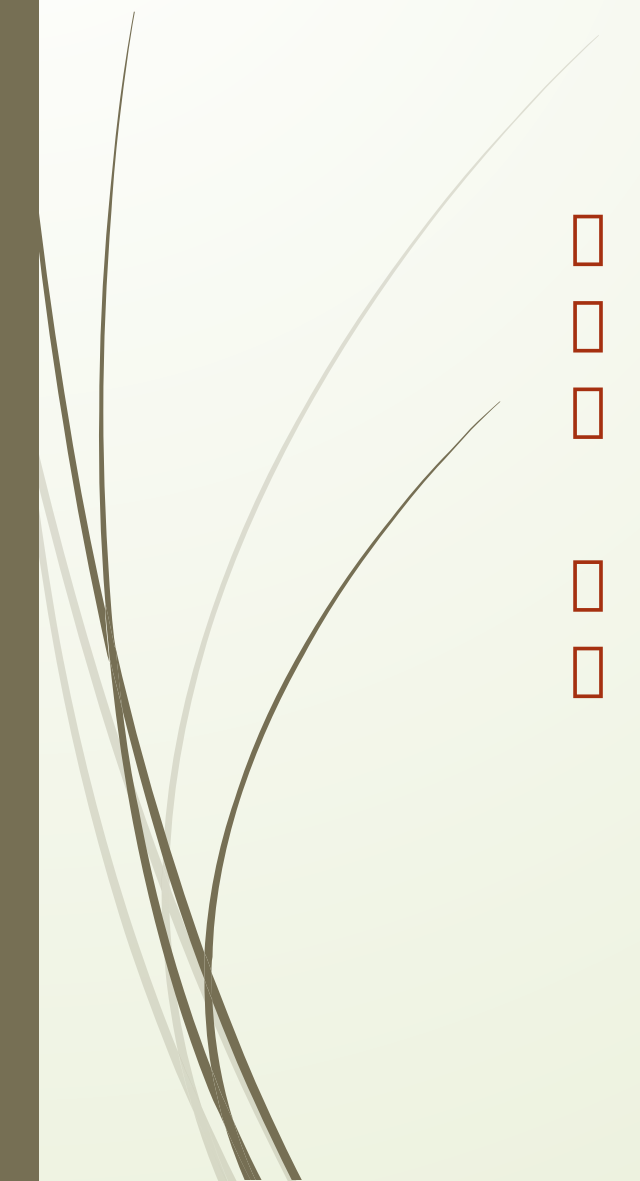


A typical day in science class

- Students come in and get their binder upon walking in
- attendance with a “this or that”
- forecast what we are doing that day and any important highlights for the week
- proceed with one of the following
 - direct instruction with fill in the blank notes
 - lab/lab write up
 - stations with hands on demos
 - written work to practice concepts
 - partner/group work to practice concepts
 - Formative Assessment(Quiz, 2 per unit), Summative Assessment (Test, 1 per unit)



Highlights about my class

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- organized binders
 - page numbered packets
 - required study guides with info direct from notes including page number
 - hands on
 - State Science Assessment - May 2026



Goals- 8th Grade Science (both standard and advanced)

- Strong emphasis on organization of class materials and development of study skills (packet system, keeping a calendar (schoology), revisiting notes, study guides, **preparing for the state science assessment (SSA)**)
- Coursework:
 - Q1: The Nature and Practice of Science , Matter, Density Mass
 - Q2: Periodic table, Mixtures/compounds, Physical and Chemical changes
 - Q3: Chemistry, Universe, Stars
 - Q4: Solar system, space, review for SSA
- Also focusing on critical thinking skills, formulating opinions, backing up arguments with scientific evidence



Grading, Re-takes, & Make-up work

Grading: (mandated by district)

- ☐ Summative Assessments (tests, major labs): 70%
- ☐ Formative (quizzes, minor labs): 30 %
- ☐ classwork and hw will be worth 10% of a formative grade each

Re-takes (summatives only)

- ☐ Required at 75% or below
- ☐ Optional at 85% or below
- ☐ Highest possible grade on a retake- 85%

Make- up work ***important***

- ☐ Find it on Schoology
- ☐ Open the powerpoint for the Unit
- ☐ Find the date/s you were absent
- ☐ Complete correlated work in the packet



What you can do to support your child

- ❑ If absent for any reason please encourage your child to view schoology and in event of confusion reach out to me via email
- ❑ Check your student's schoology calendar for upcoming quizzes & tests and encourage them to study
- ❑ Encourage planner use or some sort of calendar
- ❑ Supplies- science binder; if/when it comes home, make sure it comes back the very next day
- ❑ Feel free to email me any time
- ❑ Thank you for bringing in supplies/sign up- it is truly appreciated!!!