

**STUDENT  
SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR**



**SUCCESS IN  
SEVENTH GRADE  
SCIENCE**

*2015-2016*

## Welcome to Seventh Grade Science!

In the area of science we have a great opportunity to learn about this amazing world that God has created. I am excited to take this journey with you as we learn about earth science, biology, physics, chemistry, and ecology. I will be here to guide you through the learning process, as you investigate the world. Class periods will involve many different ways to learn including investigations, projects, debates, writing assignments, videos, discussion, reading, and more!

But, what is science? If you Google it, you'll find that the definition of science is:

*"The intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment."*

O.K....what does *that* mean? What it means is that science is a way to study nature. It is the process of observing what is going on in the world around you, asking "why does that happen?" and then creating an experiment to try and answer your question! When the experiment is done, you can create a model that helps explain what you just discovered. A model can be a 3D object (globe), a picture (diagram of a cell), an analogy (the earth is like a golf ball), or a mathematical equation ( $F = ma$ ). Models help us explain what we observed and predict things that might happen in the future.

**THIS** is what we'll be doing this year in science class! **We will be observing the world and asking "how?" "what?" and "why?" Then, we will do experiments and research to answer our questions and create models to help us understand what we learned.** Let's get started!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Adams

### Who is Mrs. Adams?

Name: Kathryn Lynn Adams

Nickname: Kate (but you can call me Mrs. Adams)

Birthday: October 9, 1985

Favorite Food: dessert ☺

Favorite Color: purple

Favorite Music Group: Needtobreathe, Hillsong United

Favorite Hobby: camping, running, hanging out with my family, playing games, watching sports

Activities I participate in at Timothy Christian: science teacher, P.E. teacher, Field Day and Lock-In co-planner

The person in life I most admire is my Grandma because she always showed the love of God to everyone she met. She was the most caring and loving person I ever knew.

One interesting or unique thing about me is that I spent 3 weeks in Hawai'i for interim in college, and I lived in Zimbabwe, Africa for 6 months when I was 5 years old.

In science this year I would like to make learning engaging, exciting, and meaningful, and get to personally know each student in the class.

## Contact Information:

You may contact me at any time at [adams@timothychristian.com](mailto:adams@timothychristian.com). This is the best way to reach me as I regularly check my e-mail. You may also call me at school 630-833-4717 ext. 638. However I do not check phone messages very regularly.

You may also contact any of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade team for general questions at:

Mr. Van Der Bill:	Social Studies	<a href="mailto:vanderbill@timothychristian.com">vanderbill@timothychristian.com</a>
Ms. Strauss:	Language Arts	<a href="mailto:strauss@timothychristian.com">strauss@timothychristian.com</a>
Mr. Ridder:	Math	<a href="mailto:ridder@timothychristian.com">ridder@timothychristian.com</a>

## What do I bring to class?

You should **ALWAYS** bring:

- Assignment notebook
- Green science folder
- Writing utensil
- Science Notebook

**SOMETIMES** you will bring:

- Science textbook
- Highlighter
- Calculator

You should **NEVER** bring:

- FOOD
- cell phone, iPod, or tablet
- Negativity

## General rules of the classroom:

*All rules that apply generally for the middle school also apply here in the science classroom.*

### Q: Why do we have rules?

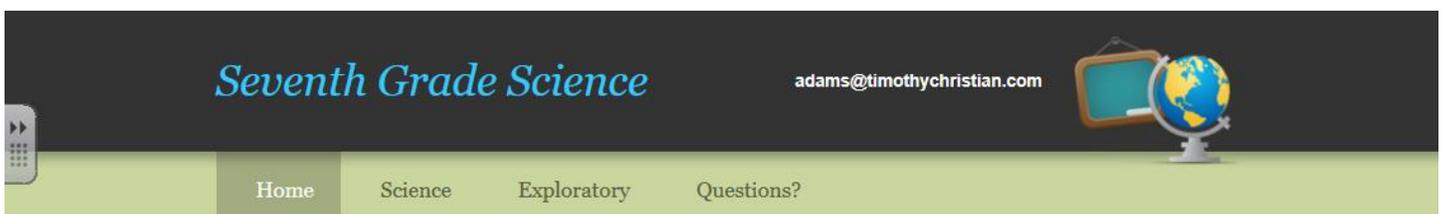
**A:** Rules help us understand our boundaries and limits. They tell us what things are beneficial, and what things may be harmful to ourselves and others. Rules are put in place for your success and enjoyment. Everyone must work together to follow the rules and create a classroom that is fun and safe. Rules will help create a classroom that is not only safe physically, but also is a safe place to share your ideas and opinions.

1. Be in your seat when the bell rings with all the necessary materials.
2. Respect your *classmates* by keeping your hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
3. Respect your *classmates and the teacher* by being attentive (no talking, disruptive behaviors) in class.
4. Respect the *school* by taking care of school property (including desks, textbooks, and science equipment).
5. Respect *yourself* by doing your best all the time.
6. Follow all rules and guidelines from the teacher to ensure the safety of you and your classmates.



## Science Website!!

That's right, seventh grade science class has its own website: <http://mrsadamsseventhsci.weebly.com/>. Check this website for updates about seventh grade science and helpful information for class. We will be using this website in class regularly, but feel free to access it from home!



### How can I get extra help?

**JUST ASK!!** If you need any extra assistance in any way for science class, I will be happy to help you. Come in and ask me questions during break or lunch, or shoot me an e-mail. I will do everything I can to help you succeed and enjoy learning about this great creation. If you think you need more time than just a break or lunch hour, contact me so we can set up a time to meet before or after school. I am here for you!!

### How will I be getting graded?

The standard Timothy Christian Middle School grading scale (see below) will also apply to science class. Each assignment will be out of a certain number of points, and a percentage figured from the number correct. You will receive points from:

- Daily Assignments
- Investigations, Labs, and Activities
- Quizzes
- Projects
- Tests

*Tests and projects have more total possible points individually; however, daily assignments and labs make up to approximately 50% of your overall grade. What I'm trying to say here is: **do your homework!!** It will not only help you learn but also improve your grade.*

### Grading Scale:

A	94.5-100	C	72.5-76.4
A-	89.5-94.4	C-	69.5-72.4
B+	86.5-89.4	D+	66.5-72.4
B	82.5-86.4	D	62.5-66.4
B-	79.5-82.4	D-	59.5-62.4
C+	76.5-79.4	F	59.4 and below

