

STAAC Class Description 2023-2024

Course Title: Middle School Science Year 2
Teacher: Rachel Aragon
Grades: 6th-8th
Meeting Day(s): Thursdays Time(s): 10:00-10:55
Student minimum required for this course: 2 Maximum accepted No max

Course Description including any prerequisites or other requirements:

Middle School Science this year will focus on two domains: Chemistry (Fall) and Geology (Spring). Students will have weekly readings assigned from their required text, with possible additional enrichment reading assigned at the discretion of the instructor. They will also be required to complete some preparatory homework to prepare for class. Class instruction time will focus heavily on completing labs and learning to create concise lab reports through the use of a required lab manual. Students should bring a willingness to participate in class discussions and an expectation of having a great time learning more about the wonders of God's Creation.

Costs

- Total Tuition: \$120 (\$170 non-volunteer)
 - **Payment Option 1:** Full amount of \$120 (or \$170) to be paid on July 1st.
 - **Payment Option 2:** Split amount of \$60 (or \$85) as two payments due on July 1st and December 1st
- Venmo information: @Rachel-Aragon-5 (Venmo is the preferred payment method)
- Checks made out to: Rachel Aragon
and mailed to: 2871 Glen Gate Cir Helena, AL 35022

STAAC Class Description 2023-2024

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

Students will be required to complete all assigned readings and preparatory homework for the week by 10pm on Wednesday evening before class. Instructor reserves right to assign readings during "off" weeks to maintain pace of class as necessary. Students will be required to utilize Google Classroom to acknowledge completion of assignments; accommodation will be provided for students without internet access/permission. Students will also be expected to bring all required materials to class, participate actively in all labs, and complete lab assignments completely if a letter grade is desired for the end of each semester. At least two tests (Mid-term and Final) will be assigned as required for those wanting a letter grade each semester.

Grading Breakdown

Homework and class readings preparation: 30%

Lab Completion (Including full lab report and active lab participation): 50%

Midterm: 10%

Final: 10%

Each instance of late work: 5% reduction in overall letter grade for semester. Allowances made for legitimate reasons, communication with instructor is key!

STAAC Class Description 2023-2024

Textbooks and Supplies Required

Focus on Middle School Chemistry Student Text, 3rd Ed., by Rebecca W. Keller (Gravitas Publications)

PLEASE NOTE: only one textbook is required per family, students in same family may share text.

Focus on Middle School Chemistry Laboratory Notebook, 3rd Ed., by Rebecca W. Keller (Gravitas Publications) PLEASE NOTE: EVERY student needs their own lab book, these are consumable.

Focus on Middle School Geology Student Text, 3rd. Ed., by Rebecca W. Keller (Gravitas Publications)

PLEASE NOTE: only one textbook is required per family

Focus on Middle School Geology Laboratory Notebook, 3rd Ed., by Rebecca W. Keller (Gravitas Publications)

PLEASE NOTE: EVERY student needs their own lab book, these are consumable.

Teacher Biography

Rachel Aragon is a second-generation homeschooler who has always loved the wonders of science. After completing her BSN at the University of Alabama, Rachel worked for 13 years as a Registered Nurse in a variety of hospital settings, with a main focus on emergency room and cardiac ICU care. She now happily homeschools her 6 children and tries to instill in them a wonder at the amazing signs of God in the world around us. She is excited to share her (hopefully not too annoying) nerdiness with other children, and hopes every student she teaches leaves class with a greater love for science!

STAAC Class Description 2023-2024

Teacher Contact Information

Email: rkcross86@gmail.com Phone: 251-454-2769 (calls and texts welcome) Will be available to help outside of class times as needed: My goal is for every student to succeed in this class.

Additional Information

N/A