

GNMS AWIM 6 Syllabus
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Course Description: The gravity cruiser is a prototype toy presented by the fictitious toy company EarthToy Designs. The engineering and design of the toy is incomplete, and student design teams are asked to complete the design process. These design teams provide many of the services required for the toy product to move to the next stage of development. The teams will do product testing and engineering and create their own cruiser designs.

In this challenge, students will focus on understanding the relationships between the "sweep" of the lever arm, the number of winds the string makes about the axle, and the distance the gravity cruiser travels. They will also investigate how the diameter of the wheels, the diameter of the axles, and the amount of weight placed on the lever affect the gravity cruiser's speed and distance. The interplay of these factors is not simple—it offers a rich challenge in critical thinking while at the same time providing an enjoyable "vehicle" for learning how to use the experimental method to test hypotheses and solve a tricky engineering problem.

After learning how to control the performance of this toy through a series of controlled tests, student design teams create their own customized toys. The set of toys that students design will be presented at the end of the challenge.

Notebook: Students are required to keep an organized, spiral bound notebook that will be used to record bell ringers, classwork, homework, etc. Students may substitute a three-ring binder for the notebook if they wish.

Major Assessments: Major grades (45%) are Tests, Benchmarks, and Major Projects, Essays.

Minor Assessments: (55%) can be Quizzes, minor projects, or Labs, minor writing assignments.

Feedback: (0%) Classwork (CW), Independent Practice (IP), participation, and signed papers.

Bellwork:

Students will be required to keep all bellwork in a 3 ring binder, folder, or spiral/composition notebook. At the beginning of each period, students will come in to find an open-ended question or activity displayed on the screen. Questions could be to activate prior knowledge, reinforce what was taught previously, or promote independent thinking. Bellwork will be graded in the form of a quiz, quick check, or a 9 week grade.

Grading scale: 90-100 (A), 80-89 (B), 70-79 (C), below 70 (F)

Grading Policy:

- 1) Students will receive a "0" for work not attempted and not turning in an assignment. Students are strongly encouraged to make up all missing work.
- 2) Students who are absent, regardless of reason, may schedule to make up any work missed **within five days** of their return to school. (Refer to Board Policy)
- 3) Students who fail a performance assessment will **NOT** be able reassess, however at the end of each *semester*, a final exam over all standards that have been taught will be administered as a replacement grade.

PBIS Positive Behavior Interventions and Support

- PBIS will be used to teach students appropriate life skills to become responsible and respectful citizens.
- GNMS Students are *respectful, responsible, and ready to learn.*
- Mustang Bucks will be given for students exhibiting Positive Behaviors.

Procedures/Expectations

Follow the GNMS 5:

All students will respect authority, the individual rights of others, and the learning environment as demonstrated by:

1. Entering the classroom quietly, taking your seat, and beginning the assignment given by the teacher.
2. Staying quiet and seated until given alternative directions.
3. Preparing for class by bringing all teacher required materials.
4. Actively participating in your learning experience in a positive manner.
5. Transitioning or moving in an orderly fashion, throughout the building.

Remind 101 (Now simply called Remind)

This is a one-way text messaging and email system that will be utilized this year to keep you informed of upcoming assignments, projects, and tests. A separate paper was sent home with information on how to join this group. I encourage each of you as a **parent and student** to join as this is one of the tools that will be used to keep you informed throughout the year. Our class code is **awim6**

Student Signature and Date

Parent Signature and Date

I have read and understand the syllabus as is stated. If I have any questions or concerns, I am able to contact my 7th grade science teacher at (706) 883-1535 or through email: canfieldet@troup.org