

6TH GRADE SCIENCE

Unit 2 Newsletter

Plate Motion

This is our second unit for 6th Grade Science. Students will take on the role of student geologists to answer a scientific question. Students are analyzing evidence to figure out why fossils of species that once lived together are now found in different locations on Earth.



Q: How can I support my student in their learning?

A: Ask your student each day to tell you what they worked on in science class that day. Scientific discourse is a large part of our science curriculum. As students discuss and explain what they are discovering and thinking it helps them to process new information. You can have them explain to you what they discovered that day and if they gathered any new evidence that helps them answer the scientific question for this unit.

Q: Where can my student access their online work?

A: Students can access their account from home by first going to www.clever.com/in/helenaschools. Then, the student will log in using their normal school login and password. Finally, the student will click on the Amplify Science app.

Q: How will my student know what to complete if they are absent?

A: First, have your student look at their assignment notebook and see what the lesson is for that day. If their assignment notebook is not filled out, then students can find the weekly agenda on the Teams page for science class. Once students know the lesson to complete, they then need to navigate to the Class Notebook in Teams and find the page for that lesson. This page will contain directions for what to complete and the PowerPoint slides used in class. If a student still has questions, they can contact me using the Teams chat.

Contact Me:

Email:

kberry@helenaschools.org

Phone:

(406) 324-1067

I will do my best to get back to you within 24 hours.

Want to know more about the unit and standards?

1) You can visit www.nextgenscience.org and search the middle school grade level standards.

2) Take a look at this summary for our current unit:

Students **analyze data** about **plates, plate boundaries, and the patterns of geologic activity characteristic of plate boundaries (patterns)**—through the use of **physical and digital models** and articles and videos featuring real-life scientists—in order to **construct explanations** about how the fossils of *Mesosaurus* (a population of extinct reptile that once lived all together) were separated by thousands of kilometers of ocean as a result of **slow plate movement over millions of years (scale, proportion, and quantity)**.

3. Give me a call or email for further information!