

Welcome to 7th Grade Life Science!



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Course Title: Grade 7 Life Science

What We'll Be Studying (in order)

Trimester 1:

- **History and Nature of Science and Engineering** (the study of scientific method, influential scientists, lab skills and engineering)
- **Living Things** (the study of how all organisms are composed of one or more cells which carry on the many functions needed to sustain life.)

Trimester 2:

- **Cells** (the study of cell structure and function)
- **Heredity** (the study of how genetic information is passed from generation to generation)
- **Change Over Time** (the study of how species adapt and change with their environment)

Trimester 3:

- **Human Biology** (the study of the structure/function of the human body and the impact of disease)
- **Ecology** (the study of how humans affect the environment)

Required Class Materials:

1. Pencils with erasers [DAILY]
2. Free-reading book [DAILY]
3. Student agenda/planner [DAILY]
4. Colored pencils [When Announced]

Behavior:

In order for every student to have a chance at doing their best, we need to create a classroom that is positive, supportive, and respectful. In Room 212 we will always be respectful towards one another. This room will be a "safe" room for all students . . . physically, emotionally, and socially. Let's make this a great year of learning science!

Participation:

All students are expected to participate in classroom activities. Activities have been carefully planned to lead toward inquiry and learning.

How You Will Earn Your Grade in Life Science:

1. **Assessments (tests and quizzes)** account for 70% of your overall Life Science grade.
2. **Summative (Trimester) Assessment** accounts for 10% of your overall Life Science grade.
3. **Homework/Classwork/Participation** accounts for 20% of your overall Life Science grade.
 - In order to perform well on ASSESSMENTS, you will have to complete homework, labs, and activities as well as participate during class.

Grading Scale:

A	93% - 100%	C	73% - 76.9%
A-	90% - 92.9%	C-	70% - 72.9%
B+	87% - 89.9%	D+	67% - 69.9%
B	83% - 86.9%	D	63% - 66.9%
B-	80% - 82.9%	D-	60% - 62.9%
C+	77% - 79.9%	F	59.9% and below

Homework:

It is very important that science be viewed as a course that requires out of class work. Work that is not completed in class will become homework. In order to be successful in science, work completion is necessary. Students should expect homework about 1-2 times per week. This will increase if student does not use class time appropriately.

Late Work:

Late work will be accepted throughout a unit. **All Late work must be turned in prior to taking each unit test if a student wishes to have the opportunity to retake the test.**

Projects:

In Life Science there will be 2-3 projects during the course of the year. These may include projects on: cells, genetics, ecology and disease.

Extra credit:

Extra credit opportunities are rarely (if ever) offered. Therefore you should not count on them to boost your grade significantly. **Working hard on a daily basis and studying for assessments is the way to succeed.**

What happens if I am absent?

If you are absent, you are responsible for finding out what you missed while you were gone. A weekly agenda will also be posted on the whiteboard for everyone to see in the classroom. You will have 2 days to complete a missed assignment for each day you were absent for an unrelated school activity (illness, vacation, appointments)