

# Biology

## Syllabus and Classroom Expectations

Teacher: Mrs. Willis Room: P-44

Welcome to science! I am excited to begin a new school year with Nease scientists. I would like to take the opportunity to share with you the expectations for our science classroom, as well as what we will be studying this year. I encourage you to keep this handout on file for future reference.

### Contact Information:

I welcome parent/guardian contact at any time, whether to address questions/concerns or just to share a success in your child's life. My email is [tina.willis@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:tina.willis@stjohns.k12.fl.us). Email is the easiest way for me to communicate with parents/guardians, but I am happy to conference over the phone or to schedule a conference.

### Science Department Philosophy:

The mission of the Nease High School Science Department is to nurture a sense of wonder and to empower every individual to connect their knowledge of science to everyday experiences.

**Safety Contract:** Safety is the utmost concern in lab. The students will be expected to behave appropriately. Please view, sign and return the Safety contract as soon as possible.

### Course Description:

This course includes 85 Standards that cover the subjects of Biology, Health, English Language Arts, and Math. The purpose of this course is to provide exploratory experiences and laboratory and real-life applications in the biological sciences. Laboratory investigation of selected topics in the content, which also include various methods of inquiry, measurement, laboratory equipment, and safety procedures, are an integral part of this course. Parents/Guardian you can see more details by logging into CPalms and viewing the standards.

(<http://data.fldoe.org/crsCode/912/Science/Biological%20Science//word/2000320.doc>)

**Course Objectives:** The following is the Unit/Organizing Biology Strands by quarters.

Content	Quarter
How science is practiced	1,2,3,4
Matter and Energy Transformations	1
Organization and Development of Organisms	1
Need for Energy within and Amongst Cells	2
Heredity and Reproduction	2
Evolution and Diversity of Life	3
Classification, Heredity & Evolution	3
Organisms, Population & Ecosystems	3, 4
Interdependence	4
Organization of Life: Systems Level	4

**Resources:** *Textbook:* Pearson Biology: Florida Edition Copyright 2012, Miller and Levine, lectures, audio-visual materials, investigations, notes, text readings, collaborative discussions and projects, claims and arguments, quizzes, exams, and etc. Students will also have the availability to access the textbook online using a given code.

**Grading Policy:** 60% Summative Assessments, 35% Other (quizzes, classwork), Homework 5%

Grades are calculated: 1<sup>st</sup> quarter-17.5%, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter-17.5%, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter-17.5%, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter-17.5% and Biology EOC-30%. The State of Florida has mandated that all Biology students take an end of year exam based on Biology Standards/Curricula) This test, as directed by the state, will count 30% of your child's final grade.

**eSchool Plus:** eSchool Plus is a great way to keep updated on your child's progress. If you have not signed up, please go the school's webpage and follow the link. An important goal is that students learn to monitor and direct their learning.

**EDMODO:** You will find valuable class information in your Biology Edmodo account. Check Edmodo often to stay informed. The code to create an EDMODO account is \_\_\_\_\_  
Log on to <https://www.edmodo.com> Follow the directions under "Sign Up Now I'm A Student"

**Homework:** Students should expect some type of homework assignment in biology most evenings. Assignments will be posted daily on the board. Students are expected to copy assignments. Homework is expected to be turned in on the assigned due date. In the event of an absence, students should refer to the Absent Folders to retrieve assignments. Make-up assignment should be returned the following day. Students are allowed two days for every one day they are absent to turn in missed assignments. Students are given a day for each day absent to make up work.

**Late Assignments:** It is critically important that homework assignments are completed on time. Homework is assigned so that students may either review a concept already covered in class or become familiar with a topic that will be covered in class the following day. When a student does not do his/her homework assignment, he/she will not receive the full benefits of participation in classroom discussions and the opportunity to ask questions about what he/she does not understand.

**Extra Credit:** No individual Extra Credit will be given.

**Classroom Expectations:** In order for our class to run as smoothly as possible, I ask that students be **polite, organized, and punctual (POP)**.

- **Be polite:** This rule includes respect of district and school rules, school/individual property and, most importantly, respect for others. Students will be working in collaborative groups of some type nearly every day in biology, so this rule is of particular importance. Every student should expect respect in our classroom and be willing to give respect in return.
- **Be organized:** Students are responsible for coming to class prepared. Required daily materials are as follows:
  - Pencil/Pen
  - Science Binder
  - Textbook
  - Completed Homework
- **Be punctual:** In order to make the most out of every class period, students are expected to be in their assigned seat and ready to start class when the bell rings.

**Supplies:**

1 inch 3 ring binder

3 packages of college ruled filler paper

Pencils, erasers, pens, highlighter

Colored Pencils

Scissors

Dividers with tabs

**Optional Donated Supplies:**

box of tissues (girls)

paper towels (boys)

hand sanitizer (girls)

Lysol wipes (boys)

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CUT and RETURN this bottom portion to

**Mrs. Willis' Room P-44 Biology**

**BY SIGNING AND RETURNING THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS FORM YOU ARE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD HAVE READ THE ATTACHED SYLLABUS.**

Please Print

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

