

Woodland Middle School Course Syllabus 2020-2021

7th Grade Life Science

August 17-October 9

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Why am I taking [course]?

This course is designed to help you enhance your knowledge of how living things are classified, how cells create larger parts of the human body and ultimately help it to function properly, how traits and DNA are passed from parents to offspring through reproduction, how populations of organisms have changed over time, and how living things interact with one another and their environment.



What am I going to learn?

This year, you are expected to achieve various objectives in the life science curriculum. By the end of the term, you should be able to accomplish several learning objectives including:

- Identify living things using the characteristics of life.
- Describe and classify organisms into the 6 kingdoms of life using key features.
- Differentiate between and construct animal and plant cells.
- Provide an explanation on how body systems collaborate in order for the human body to properly function.



How is the teacher going to teach?

This is an interactive, inquiry-based, and collaborative course. You will engage in group projects, labs, debates, and etc. The teacher will emphasize and expect students to regularly use science and engineering practices, such as:

1. Asking Questions and Defining Problems
2. Developing and Using Models
3. Planning and Carrying out Investigations
4. Analyzing and Interpreting Data
5. Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking
6. Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions
7. Engaging in Argument from Evidence



What materials do I need?

- Online Textbook in the HMH APP: **HMH Georgia Science Grade 7**
- Student Issued Chromebook and Charger
- Other materials needed at home: Paper, pencils, and occasionally colored pencils, ruler, markers, glue, and scissors



What does success look like in this class?

Passing this class will require you to complete warm ups, weekly assignments/activities, quizzes, and discussion posts. Strive to make a 70 or above on all tasks. Major tasks in the class are briefly described below:

- Warm-Ups- You will have a daily warm up on Google Classroom to start each lesson. They take roughly 5-7 minutes to complete and can be multiple choice or short answer. This will count as a practice grade.
- Assignments- Assignments consists of practice work, projects, writing papers, completing web quests, scavenger hunts, gizmos, and lab activities. These will count as practice grades.
- Weekly Quiz – You will take a weekly quiz on the material learned, and this will count as an assessment grade.

Grade Calculation

Category	Weight
Practice Work	40%
Assessments	40%
Final Exam	20%

HCS Grading Scale

Numerical Grade	Letter Grade	What This Means
0-69	F	You have not provided evidence that you've learned the required material. You may not be turning in many assignments.
70-73	D	You have demonstrated very limited understanding of the required material. Work with your teacher to find strategies that will allow you to show more understanding.
74-79	C	You have demonstrated some understanding of the required material. Work with your teacher to find strategies that will allow you to show more understanding.
80-89	B	You have demonstrated proficiency of the required material.
90-100	A	You could teach this material to a peer.



Course Calendar
(Some items May Change)

Week	Topics Covered	Assessments & Due Dates	
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Characteristics of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary Quiz and/or Weekly Quiz-TBA	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classification-Dichotomous Keys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary Quiz and/or Weekly Quiz-TBA	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversity of Life- 6 Kingdoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary Quiz and/or Weekly Quiz-TBA	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversity of Life- 6 Kingdoms (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unit 1 Test- TBA	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cells- Intro to the Cell Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary Quiz and/or Weekly Quiz-TBA	
6	<div data-bbox="261 911 1360 1060" style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px;"><p>How do I get help outside of class? I am available through email each day from 8:15-4:15, and I will be able to give extra assistance on most Fridays.</p></div>		Weekly
7			Weekly
		Quiz-TBA	

