

7th Grade Life Science Requirements

2013-2014

Teacher: Miss Stauffer

Room: D-12

Contact Information:

Phone: Nandua Middle School, 757-787-7037

Email: jstauffer@nms.accomack.k12.va.us – the best way to contact me.

Webpage: <http://new.schoolnotes.com/staufferj/>

Planning period: 9:11-9:51am

Textbooks: *Life Science*, supplemental materials

- Note: Textbooks are not issued to students unless requested. They may be checked out on a library-type loan system if needed.

Course Description

The Life Science standards emphasize a more complex understanding of change, cycles, patterns, and relationships in the living world. Students build on basic principles related to these concepts by exploring the cellular organization and the classification of organisms; the dynamic relationships among organisms, populations, communities, and ecosystems; and change as a result of the transmission of genetic information from generation to generation. Inquiry skills at this level include organization and mathematical analysis of data, manipulation of variables in experiments, and identification of sources of experimental error. For more information on the SOL's, visit this website:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/science/index.shtml.

Course Materials

School fees [\$3.00] must be paid

Science Notebook

2 inch 3-ring binder

Loose-leaf Paper

Notebook dividers – 5 sections

Paper hole-reinforcements (optional)

Pencil sharpener

Glue sticks

Scissors

Highlighter

Dry erase markers

Markers and/or colored pencils (optional)

Pens and/or pencils [black or blue]

Assessing Student Achievement

Graded Work	School-wide Grading Scale
Each 4½ weeks, the following will be averaged for a grade: 35% Tests 30% Quizzes 15% Labs & projects 10% Classwork 10% Homework Midterm & Final Exam – each counts 1/7 th of the semester and/or yearly grade	A – 94 – 100 B – 86 – 93 C – 77 – 85 D – 70 – 76 F – 69 and below <i>May be modified for those with accommodations.</i>

PowerSchool: Grades are posted weekly. (Grades for the previous week are usually posted on Sunday or Monday of the following week.) Parents can get log-in information from guidance.

Assignment Policies

- **Assignment Completion**

All assignments will be completed within **two** days of the due date. A score of zero is assigned for any work not completed. Students with accommodations may be exempt from this policy.

- **Make-up work**

It is essential that students be in attendance and prompt. Science activities, especially labs and fieldwork, are not easily “made up” after an absence. The following policies apply:

It is **the student’s responsibility** to:

- **Check the Absentee folder** for your class. Whatever class notes, missing assignments & classwork that can be made up will be there upon your return.
- **Schedule any test or quiz make-ups** with the teacher
- Make up missing daily work within **two days**
- Any work not received within the prescribed time frame will be given a **zero** for a grade.
- Some classwork, such as a lab or other hands-on activity, will not be able to be made up. If possible, an alternative written assignment may be given.

Please Note: Student work is evaluated for quality as well as quantity. Work that is incorrect, incomplete, or poorly done will result in lower grades. Parents are notified by phone and letter when a student is failing or in danger of failing.

Tardy Policy

Students are considered tardy if not in the classroom and in their seats when class is scheduled to start. **Homeroom/Core 1 – 8:08; Power – 9:56, Core 4 – 10:43; Core 5- 11:45; Core 7 – 2:07.**

- First Offense – verbal warning
- Second Offense – Lunch detention, one day
- Third Offense – Phone call home, Lunch detention, one week
- Additional tardiness – office referral

Extra Credit

Extra credit is not an option for students with incomplete classwork, or for those who are not putting forth effort in class. Extra credit may be available for others, at the discretion of the teacher. Occasional extra credit points are also included on tests & quizzes or during daily class work. If a student chooses to do a project on their initiative, it must be approved by the teacher, and they will receive extra credit. Work may be turned in up to 1 week prior to grades; it will not be accepted at the last minute.

Assistance

Do not wait until the last week of the marking period to ask for help. *With prior arrangement*, I am available after school.

Safety, Clean up, and Room Maintenance Students will be required to learn and practice lab safety procedures. Students will not be dismissed from class until lab clean up is complete and the classroom returned to a neat and orderly appearance.

Discipline Plan for Miss Stauffer's Classroom

School-wide Behavior Expectations

Nandua Middle School has adopted behavior expectations to encourage all students to succeed. They are:

- Personal responsibility – Accept all consequences for your actions, good or bad
- Respect – Show consideration and appreciation for others
- Integrity – Choose to do the right thing, always
- Determination – Set goals for yourself, strive to do your best
- Excellence – Reach for your greatest potential

Classroom Rules

- Stay in your seat
- Raise your hand to speak
- Be polite – use manners, be respectful – [rude behavior will not be tolerated]
- No gum, food, drinks, or smelly stuff [perfume, cologne, deodorant, hand lotion etc.]
- Bring your own supplies – [paper, pens/pencils, notebook]

Consequences for Unacceptable Behavior

1. Verbal Warning and/or note home to parents
2. Removal from activity/sent to another room with makeup work to complete
3. Lunch detention
4. Disciplinary Referral
5. Severe disruptions [fighting, bullying, abusive language, dangerous or violent behavior] – immediate office referral.

Rewards for Good Behavior

Appropriate behavior may be rewarded with verbal and written praise, free time or time on the computers when classwork is finished, homework passes, and other activities.

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Statement of Participation

Life Science requires students to work cooperatively and participate in hands-on activities; both indoors and outside activities are possible. Students are expected to work with others, complete homework, classwork, labs, projects and tests. Grades will be assessed based on academic performance on all required assignments.

This statement is to certify that my child and I have read and understand the requirements, and expectations for participation in Miss Stauffer's 7th Grade Life Science course at Nandua Middle School.

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Please sign this form and return it to the Miss Stauffer as soon as possible. Thank you.