**![MMj02853320000[1]]()**Biology- 8th Grade Science Syllabus

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I am so excited to explore the world of Science and I hope you all are too! Our curriculum is designed to get you ready for your future Science classes, to build upon other ideas that you already have some knowledge about, and to introduce you to some new and exciting concepts!

 Here is an overview of the topics we will explore this year in Biology:

* Scientific Research
* Basic Chemistry
* Microscopic Organisms
* Plant and Animal Cells
* Bacteria and Viruses
* Genetics and Heredity
* Humans and Animal Anatomy

**Things to have in class EVERYDAY:**

* Science Binders
* Pen or pencil
* Highlighter
* A good attitude

**OTHER GOOD THINGS TO KNOW**

**Grading Policy:**

* Grades in the class are weighed in the following manner:
	+ Homework and Classwork = the weight of a standard grade
	+ Labs and Quizzes = Three times the weight of a standard grade
	+ Tests and Projects = Five times the weight of a standard grade
* The grading scale is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 98 – 100 | A+ |  | 88 - 89 | B+ |  | 78 - 79 | C+ |  | 68 - 69 |  | D+ |  | 59 – below | F |
| 93 – 97 | A |  | 83 - 87 | B |  | 73 - 77 | C |  | 63 – 67 |  | D |  |  |  |
| 90 - 92 | A- |  | 80 - 82 | B- |  | 70 - 72 | C- |  | 60 – 62 |  | D- |  |  |  |

**Homework Policy:**

* Homework will be assigned 3-4 times per week averaging15-30 minutes per night.
* Occasionally, homework may take longer, depending on the student and type of assignment.
* Projects are assigned several times throughout the year that and are to be completed at home.
* Homework is due on the due date at the beginning of class or the first day the student attends school at the beginning of class to be considered on-time. Any work turned in after class begins is considered late.

**Cheating and Plagiarism Policy:**

* Cheating is when a student completes an individual assignment by copying another’s work, allowing another person to complete or give answers to all or part of an individual assignment or gives answers to another student to help him or her complete an individual assignment.
* Plagiarism is when a student intentionally takes someone else’s work and tries to pass it off as his or her won work.
* If a student is considered cheating or plagiarizing an assignment, the student/s considered cheating will be given an afterschool detention, where the assignment will be done over under supervision and the student will also receive alternative seating until further notified.
* If this becomes routine, he or she will be given a referred to administration for further discipline.

**Make-up, Missing, and Late Work:**

* All work is due at the beginning of the period. Work turned in after the period begins is considered late, unless otherwise specified.
* Students will receive a one day grace period for each day they miss to complete any work they missed due to an excused absence. Any work turned in after the grace period ends will be considered late. **Students are responsible for obtaining work and completing it on-time after an absence, not the teacher. So, they must come and obtain the make-up work and communicate the days they were absent by writing it on the top of the assignment when it is handed in.**
* The first day of every week during Encore, students will review their grades and missing assignments. If students have a low grade (a D or F) or is missing any work, they will be assigned a detention to make-up or redo work to remedy the grade or missing assignments. Students will come everyday to afterschool detention until the grade is raised or missing work is all done. Homework Club are assigned every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. ***All late work will receive a 10% grade deduction.***
* Students may also come to Homework Club to get extra help on an assignment, redo an assignment to get a better grade (up to an A-) or to complete an assignment for a class, as long as they are working and not goofing off.

**Class Expectations:**

Students are expected to:

* Be Prompt (on-time to all classes)
* Be Prepared (have all required material for class)
* Be Productive (use class time appropriately and as instructed)
* Be Polite (respect others and themselves)
* Be Safe (avoid dangerous behaviors that may harm his or herself and others in the lab)

**Extra-Credit:**

* Offered regularly throughout the trimester for struggling students (with a grade of C- or less) and on assessments for all students in Homework Club.
* Offered periodically throughout the trimester for students with a C- or higher, as determined by teacher.
* Class Supply extra credit offered in trimester 1 and 2 only. Students may bring in one of each of the following to receive extra credit
	+ Paper towels
	+ Hand sanitizer
	+ Tissue
	+ Clorox Wipes
	+ Dish Soap

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*Your success this year will depend on how well you can stay organized and be responsible for your own work. My goal as your teacher is to provide you with the tools and guidance to accomplish this. In return, I am asking you to just give me your honest effort and you will succeed this year!!!*

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

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