**Description: MCj03970480000[1]7th Grade Life Science**

**2015-2016**

**Blue Team**

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Welcome to an exciting year in 7th grade Life Science. The goal of this class is for you to experience the living world around you and to understand how the living world works. Life Science will be studied in separate units, but each unit is intricately connected to all of the other units. We will experience Life Science through a wide variety of activities ranging from hands-on labs and activities to reading articles about discoveries of life occurring today. Be prepared to work hard, learn many new facts, and to have fun.

**Focus:**

Students will be able to apply and communicate how science applies to a variety of real-life application experiments.

Students will be able to participate in discussions of current scientific discoveries and debates.

Students will be able to design an independent science project.

**Text**:

Prentice Hall – Science Explorer Life Science (ISBN # 0132508117)

The textbook is also available as an eBook with many additional resources, including visual and animated resources, linked to the text. The eBook can be found on Blackboard.

Textbooks can be issued upon requests based on availability.

**Grading Scale and Policy:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | A | B+ | B | C+ | C | D+ | D | E |
| Percentage | 90-100 | 87-89 | 80-86 | 77-79 | 70-76 | 67-69 | 60-69 | 0-59 |
| Quality Points | 4 | 3.5 | 3 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1 | 0 |

Student grades will reflect student achievement and not student behavior.

* Quarterly grades will round up when the percentage is .5 or higher.
* The final grade will be the average of the four quality points for the quarterly grades.
* In addition to achievement, work will be evaluated using the following symbols.

! - Surpasses Expectations #-Meets Expectations ^-Approaches Expectations N- Needs Improvement

**Determination of Grades:**

Students will be graded in the following categories. The students will receive a specific number of points per assignment, which will break down approximately to the percentages following the categories of assessments.

**Formative Assessments** = 55% **Summative Assessment** = 45%

Labs and Classwork = 25% Tests

Quizzes = 30% Projects

**Unit Tests**

* Tests will be announced at least one week in advance to allow time to study. A study guide will be provided.
* There are no retakes on unit tests.

**Quiz Retake Policy**

* Quiz retakes will be allowed for any student who scores 79% or lower, and attend the mandatory after school reteach session.
* Retake scores will not exceed an 85%.

**Late Work Policy:**

* Assignments turned in 1 day late will result in a 5% grade deduction.
* Assignments turned in more than 2 days late will result in a 10% deduction.
* All late work must be turned in prior to the unit test.

**Absent Work:**

* If a student is absent they have as many days as they were absent to make up the missing work. Any time after that, the late work policy applies.
* Any make-up labs must be scheduled within one week of the original lab date.
* If you miss school please check the homework blog.
* Following an absence make an appointment to see your teacher outside of class time.

**Additional Help:**

* Thursday during ASP1 a science teacher will be available for assistance.
* Teachers are available during a lunch by appointment.

**Units of Study and Anticipated Dates of Completion:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Quarter | Units | VA SOL | NGSS |
| First Quarter | Scientific Inquiry  Characteristics of Life  Classification | LS.1  LS.2, LS.3  LS.4 | MS-LS1  MS-LS1  MS-LS4 |
| Second Quarter | Cell Theory and Cellular Structure  Cell Transport and Cellular Functions | LS.2, LS.3  LS.5, LS.8 | MS-LS1  MS-LS1 |
| Third Quarter | Cell Division  Meiosis  Genetics  Evolution | LS.6  LS.12  LS.12  LS.13 | MS-LS1  MS-LS3  MS-LS3  MS-LS4 |
| Fourth Quarter | Taxonomy  Ecology | LS.4  LS.5, LS.6, LS.7, LS.8, LS.9, LS.10, LS.11 | MS-LS2  MS-LS2 |

Please sign below to indicate that you have read and understand this syllabus.

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Student Signature Date Parent Signature Date