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## Life Science Syllabus

**2016-2017**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Teacher:** | **Heather Holder**  |  |
| **Grade:** | **7th Grade** |  **E-mail:** | **Heather.Holder@cobbk12.org** |
| **Planning Time:** | **9:25-11:02** |  |  |

**BLOG Information:** To access my blog, please go to the school webpage, click on “Teacher Blogs”, scroll down and click on my name (Holder,Heather).

## Georgia Performance Standards:

To view all of the standards for Life Science, in detail, please go to:

<http://www.cobbk12.org/centraloffice/picasso/395.html>

The middle school Life Science course is designed to give students the necessary skills for a smooth transition from Elementary School Life Science standards to High School Biology standards. The purpose is to give all students an overview of common strands of Life Science including but not limited to diversity of living organisms, structure and function of cells, heredity, ecosystems and biological evolution.

The Units of Study are:

1. Ecology: Interdependence of Life
2. Energy Flow and Nutrient Cycling
3. Structure and Function of Cells
4. Organization of Life
5. Biological Traits and Heredity
6. Evidence of evolution

## Textbook (hard copies of the textbook will remain in the classroom):

Holt Life Science 2008 (replacement cost $70.75)

**Online Textbook login information for Math and Science**

**my.hrw.com username: lostmountain password: a3j3b**

***Classroom Goals:***

The student will have an understanding of the various disciplines taught during the school year.

The student will develop a curiosity about how the world works and the living things around them.

The student will develop process skills and behaviors used by scientists and begin thinking like a scientist.

The student will understand the impact they have on the environment and on all living things.

The student will solve problems using the scientific method.

***Guidelines for Success:***

Students can be successful by remaining organized. In order to do this, students should do the following:

* check blogs daily
* bring paper, binder, writing utensils, and agenda to class daily
* complete all assignments in a timely manner
* study for test
* behave in a manner that does not distract others from learning
* treat others the way you wish to be treated

## Course activities and projects:

Many various activities will be performed during the school year. The type will change according to the unit and the needs of the students. I am available to help students before school most days by appointment.

* Labs/investigations
* Internet activities and inquiries
* Videos
* Worksheets
* Projects
* Visual presentations
* Cooperative groups

## Assessment Weights: Grading Scale:

**Test and Projects--------------------50% 90-100 A**

 **80-89 B**

**Classwork----------------------------20% 74-79 C**

 **70-73 D**

**Quizzes/Labs ------------------------20% Below 70 F**

**Homework---------------------------10%**

***Make-Up work/Late Work:***

If a student is absent, he or she has one day for every day absent to make up work without penalty. The student can check the blog to find out what he or she missed and the student can get make-up work from me and/or from the forms attached on my blog. **It is the responsibility of the student to check the class blog every day they are absent.**

The grading of late work will be as follows:

**One class period late: automatic 15 point deduction**

**Two class periods late: automatic 30 point deduction**

**Three or more class periods late: automatic 50 point deduction**

**\*\*\*Late assignments will be taken for partial credit as long as we are still on that unit.\*\*\***

This late work grading system will apply to all assignments given in class, including projects.

**Reassessment (Do Over) Policy:**

When a student receives a 74% or below on a summative test or project, they will be given the opportunity to examine the items missed and earn back points for the assessment. Upon successful completion points earned will be added to the original assessment score. Students will have one week to complete the work.

## Advanced Content Course Requirement

The course framework and instructional strategies for this course are differentiated in content, pacing, process skills emphasis, and expectation of student outcomes from the typical 7th grade science course. Course content has been designed for mastery and extension of state and district performance standards. The course is appropriate for students who have high achievement and interest in science. Lost Mountain has established criteria and guidelines to identify students who will be successful in this course. Students are placed in this class according to specified indicators of demonstrated exceptional ability and motivation. Students must meet continuation criteria to remain in the class.

## Needed Supplies: Request Classroom Supplies:

-pencils (if not mechanical, please have -tissues

 a small handheld sharpener of your own) -disinfecting table cleaning wipes

-blue or black pens (such as Clorox or Lysol)

-5 dividers -paper towels

-colored pencils -Ziploc bags (of all sizes)

-glue stick

-3 ring binder with loose-leaf notebook paper

**Tutoring:**

Tutoring will be offered by request.

**Film:**

Occasionally we will watch videos, clips, and/or movies to supplement class material. Most are short clips or videos made specifically for middle school. However, some have a rating of PG or PG-13. All videos, clips, and movies have been viewed and pre-approved by administration.

**Behavior:**

Behavior will be monitored according to the LMMS Eagle Card policy.

**\*I reserve the right to alter this syllabus as it becomes necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of this class. Students will be made aware of any necessary changes in a timely manner.**

**Please Return this sheet**

***\*Parents, please sign below as an acknowledgement that you read and understood the syllabus (attached under “Class Resources” on the blog) and the policies and procedures of this class, particularly the grading practices. By signing you are giving your permission for your student to view any videos, clips, or movies in class. Thank you!***

**Parent/Guardian Name Printed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Name Printed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Best Phone number for contact\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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

 Check here if you do not give your child permission to view videos, clips, and/or movies in class.