7th Grade Life Science

Syllabus

Discovery Middle School
1304 Hughes Road
Madison, AL 35758

Teacher: Sarah Prevallet
Email: sbprevallet@madisoncity.k12.al.us
Class Webpage: wwww.madisoncity.k12.al.us/Domain/1922
Phone Number: 256-837-3735 ext. 82116

Course Description:	*This course focuses on life science. Students are encouraged to develop an appreciation of the importance of diversity of life, while simultaneously understanding the impact of their roles as individuals in the community of life. Some areas of study include characteristics of life, cell structure and processes, DNA, human body systems, Mendel's Laws of Inheritance (genetics), and ecology. The focus of this course prepares students for biology and other life science courses taken in high school. Students are involved in laboratory experiments for a deeper understanding of the concepts.* Alabama Course of Study - Science, pages 36-38
Course Objectives:	Welcome to Life Science! You will be developing your skills using the scientific method to investigate biological concepts. After this class, students will be able to describe the biological role of key molecules, explain how cells work, describe why we look like our parents, explain how organisms shape our world and the amazing machine, the human body.
Classroom Expectations:	Classroom Rules and Procedures: **P**repared **A**ttentive **N**ice **T**imely **H**elpful **E**ngaged **R**esponsible **S**afe Dr. P's class is full of Discovery PANTHERS!
Textbook:	CK-12 Life Science Digital Text Book

Grading:	Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as work can be made up and graded for excused absences only.
Make-up Work:	Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit previously assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absences must be made up within a timeframe determined by the teacher. **It is the responsibility of the student to ensure he or she makes up work following excused absences. Students will not receive credit for and will not be allowed to make up any assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., missed during unexcused absences.** (DMS 2021-2022 Student Handbook)
Late Work:	For work turned in late, the following policy will apply: • The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc. 1 day late = maximum credit 89% 2 days late = maximum credit 79% 3 days late = maximum credit 69% 4 days late = maximum credit 59% 5-10 days late = maximum credit 50% • Half credit is always better than no credit! Until work has been made up, "Missing" (which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated once work is completed and turned in.
Accommodations:	Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed by students and parents.
Technology	Concerning laptop utilization: 1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.

	4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.
Materials and Supplies:	1. School System issued or personal laptop computer capable of connecting to school WIFI. 2. Composition Notebook 3. Pencil

Week Plan **Subject to Change*	
Week	**Unit**
1	Unit 1: Scientific Process
2	Unit 1: Scientific Process
3	Unit 2: Biochemistry and Cells
4	Unit 2: Biochemistry and Cells
5	Unit 3: Cell Processes
6	Unit 3: Cell Processes
7	Unit 3: Cell Processes / Unit 4: The Cell Cycle, Mitosis, and DNA
8	Unit 4: The Cell Cycle, Mitosis, and DNA
9	Unit 4: The Cell Cycle, Mitosis and DNA/ Unit 5: Genetics
10	Unit 5: Genetics
11	Unit 5: Genetics
12	Unit 5: Genetics / Unit 6: Human Body Systems
13	Unit 6: Human Body Systems / Unit 7: Ecology
14	Unit 7: Ecology
15	Unit 7: Ecology
16	Unit 7: Ecology/Unit 8: Biodiversity and Evolution

17	Unit 8: Biodiversity and Evolution / Reviews for Final exam
18	Reviews for Final exam / Final exam