

COURSE TITLE:	Environmental Science/Ecology		
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Forsyth County Schools Course Syllabus 2020/2021

Course Description: The Environmental Science curriculum is designed to extend student investigations that began in grades K-8. It integrates the study of many components of our environment, including the human impact on our planet. The concepts integrated into this course include: flow of energy & cycling of matter, interconnection of all life, stability and change in an ecosystem, conservation and resource allocation, and evaluation of human activity and technology. In the Ecology portion of this course students will learn the study of the distribution and abundance of life and interactions between and among organisms and their environment, including the impact of human activities on the natural world. It draws on elements from biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and the social sciences. This curriculum is lab and field based. Whenever possible careers related to ecology and relevant case studies should be emphasized.

Standards: *Course Standards can be found at www.georgiastandards.org. The website will also be posted on my ItsLearning page.*

Required Assignments: *A variety of daily activities, lab work, and projects will be assigned throughout the course.*

Availability for Extra Help: *I will be available in the morning and afternoon by appointments, as well as during IF.*

Makeup Work: *Make up work is defined as work assigned during a student's absence, not work assigned prior to an absence. The student has five (5) school days upon returning to school to complete make-up work. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period to make up work, if there are extenuating circumstances.*

Grading Calculations:

Non-EOC Course Average = 50% (1st Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2nd Sem. Course Work)
1st and 2nd Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

Grading Policy:

A = 90 – 100
B = 80 – 89
C = 70 – 79
Failing = Below 70

Formative Assessments include, but are not limited to homework, class work, practice tests, rough drafts, and sections of projects/research papers/presentations.

Summative Assessments include, but are not limited to unit tests, final projects, final essays, final research papers, and final presentations.

Learning Resources/Textbook(s): All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience of this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including

those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked. <http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>

- **Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes.
<https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances.
<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with their privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Digital	Privacy Policy
Earth Science - Holt, Rinehart & Winston Glencoe (2008)	Digital Access On-level	Permissions
Living in the Environment - Cengage (2014)	Owl Access Advanced Placement	Permissions
Georgia Virtual School	Environmental Science On-level AP Environmental Science Earth Systems	http://www.gavirtualearnin.org/terms.aspx
Discovery Education	Classlink Access SEV1-5 Classlink Access SES1-6	Discovery Media Terms of Use
NewsELA Environmental Science	Classlink Access CLEVER	NewsELA Privacy Policy
Earth Science - Holt, Rinehart & Winston Glencoe (2008)	Digital Access On-level	Permissions
Living in the Environment - Cengage (2014)	Owl Access Advanced Placement	Permissions
Georgia Virtual School	Environmental Science On-level AP Environmental Science Earth Systems	http://www.gavirtualearnin.org/terms.aspx
Discovery Education	Classlink Access SEV1-5 Classlink Access SES1-6	Discovery Media Terms of Use
NewsELA Environmental Science	Classlink Access CLEVER	NewsELA Privacy Policy

** The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.*

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	NSTA Podcast for the Classroom	Blick on Flicks	Policy
	M.I.T. OpenCourseware	M.I.T. Science, Technology, & Society	Privacy Policy
	HHMI biointeractive	Classroom Resources	Ed Framework In Progress
	Kahoot	kahoot.it	Policy
	Quizlet	quizlet.com	https://quizlet.com/privacy

**** The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student's teacher via email.**

I, _____, have read this course syllabus and approve of its contents. I agree to allow my student to use each of the classroom resources listed in the learning resource section. I will support my student following the classroom expectations outlined in this course syllabus. I agree that I am the person who is legally allowed to consent for my student whose name is listed below.

Student's Name (Print)

Parent's Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Date