

COURSE TITLE: **Biology**

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Forsyth County Schools Course Syllabus 2020/2021

Course Description: The Biology curriculum is designed to continue student investigations of the life sciences that began in grades K-8 and provide students the necessary skills to be proficient in biology. This curriculum includes more abstract concepts such as the interdependence of organisms, the relationship of matter, energy, and organization in living systems, the behavior of organisms, and biological evolution. Students investigate biological concepts through experience in laboratories and field work using the processes of inquiry.

The state mandated Georgia Milestones End of Course Assessment is required and counts 20% of the student's overall course grade.

Standards: *Course Standards can be found at www.georgiastandards.org or you can post them on your webpage and/or offer a copy to parents. Students and parents must be made aware of how you will provide standards and how they can gain access to them.*

Availability for Extra Help: *I am available for help sessions any morning (that I don't have a meeting) starting at 7:30am. I am available any afternoon (as long as I don't have a meeting) but would prefer that students make appointments for afternoon help.*

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:

High School EOC Course Average = 40% (1st Sem. Course Work) + 40% (2nd Sem. Course Work) + 20% EOC

1st & 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:

Initials _____ (every page initialed by parent)

Updated June 2020 dp

- **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
Biology - McDougal Littell (2008)	http://www.classzone.com/cz/books/bio_07/book_home.htm?state=GA	ClassZone
Campbell Biology 12th Edition	AP Biology Pearson Mastering Biology etext	SAAVAS
Nearpod	Classlink Access	
Georgia Virtual School	Biology	http://www.gavirtuallearnin.org/terms.aspx
Discovery Education	Classlink Access	Discovery Media Terms of Use
NewsELA Biology	Classlink Access CLEVER	NewsELA Privacy Policy
Explore Learning Gizmos and Online Simulations	https://www.explorelearning.com/	https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy

** 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

	How to fight desertification and reverse climate change	TEDTalks video highlights global human impact resulting in desertification	https://www.ted.com/about/our-organization/our-policies-terms/privacy-policy
	Gene Editing	Paired Texts & Argumentative Performance Task	NewsELA Privacy Policy
	Human Population Time Lapse to 2050	American Museum of Natural History download	
	CRISPR Explained	Mayo Clinic clip	
	Testing Gene Editing for Sickle Cell Disease	Stanford Children's Health Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford	

**** 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