

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Life Science

Syllabus: 2018-2019

Mrs. Mila and Ms. Avichouser

Welcome to Seventh Grade Life Science! This will be an engaging and challenging year. We will be covering several Biology topics, in preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science FSA and high school biology courses. Our curriculum is taught at an advanced level and all students are expected to give 100% effort. We also expect students to be fully engaged in class activities, prepared for class, ask lots of questions and have fun!

This syllabus will serve as an overview of the class and our expectations. The syllabus will be posted on the TCMS 7<sup>th</sup> webpage and also on Edsby pages throughout the year for your reference.

## Overview

### First Semester

Course Introduction

Lab Safety

Nature of Science

Organization and Development of Living Organisms

Structures, Processes, and Responses of Plants

Heredity and Reproduction

\* First Semester Exam

### Second Semester

Human Body Systems

Ecosystems

Interdependence

Evolution

Animal Diversity

Florida Ecology

\*Second Semester Exam

## Assignments

You should expect some sort of assignment daily. (i.e. notebook page, notes, lab/activity, handout, book lesson and questions) **Assignments are due on the date/time specified by the teacher. Late assignments will not be accepted and will earn a grade of "0" in the grade book.**

## Homework

You can expect to have homework nightly. All homework will be graded; incomplete and/or late assignments will earn a grade of "0" in the grade book.

## Projects

There will be a long-term project assigned each quarter. You will typically have 1-2 weeks to complete the project and it will be a culmination of several topics covered in the quarter. **If a project is turned in after the due date, there will be a 15 point deduction each day it is late – for a maximum of 2 days, after which it will not be accepted. If a project is due on Friday, and a student has not completed it, IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER MONDAY!**

## Student Notebook

You will use a composition book as an *Interactive Student Notebook* (ISN). This notebook will be used for note taking, information processing, studying and reflection. It is essential to developing organizational skills and must be brought to class daily. There will be ISN quizzes on a regular basis.



## Materials Needed Daily:

- 4 composition books (1 per quarter)
- Science folder
- Notebook paper
- Pens (black/blue)
- Pencils (#2)
- Colored pencils
- Highlighter
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Tape

## Grading Policy

**\*No Extra Credit is given\***

Tests/Projects: 40%

Quizzes/Labs: 35%

Classwork/Homework: 25%

### **Grade Scale:**

A 100 - 90

B 89 - 80

C 79 - 70

D 69 - 60

F 59 - 0

## **Quizzes and Tests**

You will have a quiz every week; **may be announced or a surprise**. The quizzes will cover vocabulary or concepts. There will be a test at the end of each unit to assess student mastery.

## **Vocabulary**

A large part of your success will be dependent upon your understanding the language of biology. You will be given vocabulary terms for each lesson and should spend at least a few minutes daily reviewing these words and their definitions. The vocabulary terms are cumulative and are tested throughout the semester on pop quizzes. The app/website Quizlet.com will be used for vocabulary and you will be given the class name during the first week of school.

## **Attendance**

**Please be in school every day☺. We understand that sometimes emergencies and illnesses occur and you will need to miss a day of school. If this occurs, please check Edsby and see your teacher immediately upon your return to school to inquire about missed assignments. Turn in all assignments promptly according to school policy; this is your responsibility to keep up with.** If there is an “excused” absence, you will have the same number of days absent to complete the assignments missed. (Absent 2 days? Then you have 2 days to make up the work.) If you are absent more than 3 days, please meet with your teacher to make reasonable arrangements for make-up work. If you arrive to school tardy, you are required to meet with your teacher before the end of the day to turn in any assignments, which were due and inquire about that day’s assignments.

## **Extra Help**

Extra help is available on Wednesdays from 3:10 – 4:00 for students who are struggling with the curriculum.

## **Edsby**

We will post class information, projects, and some assignments on Edsby. Grades will be updated regularly and should be checked by students and parents. **Parents, please take an active role in monitoring student progress.**

## **Contact Information**

We are happy to address any and all concerns that arise during the course of the school year. The easiest and quickest way to get a response is by email [elizabeth.mila@tcmstornadoes.com](mailto:elizabeth.mila@tcmstornadoes.com) or [kim.avichouser@tcmstornadoes.com](mailto:kim.avichouser@tcmstornadoes.com). We check this when able throughout the day and will typically reply within 24 hours. We are also available for conferences during 2<sup>nd</sup> period (Mrs. Mila) or 5<sup>th</sup> period (Ms. Avichouser).

## **Technology**

We will use technology as often as possible this year. Students will need access to computers or personal devices at home and school. In an effort to help us plan accordingly, please indicate the technology access your student has below. Also, if you are able, download the following free apps onto a device you will use in class.

- Quizlet
- Socrative Student
- Kahoot