

Garry Middle School 7th Grade Life Science Syllabus

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In this course you will learn about:

- Ecology
- Population dynamics
- Cells
- Genetics
- Changes over time and classification
- The microbial world
- Plants and animals
- The human body

As you learn, you will have the opportunity to practice reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, use technology, work collaboratively, conduct hands-on investigation, and practice problem-solving skills.

Keys to success:

- Come to class, on time, and ready to learn
- Expect to fail... and learn from your failures! Attitude is key!
- Complete assignments, on time, and to your best ability
- Communicate! If you are struggling with something, let me know. I can't help you with a problem I'm unaware of. Classmates may be able to help too!
- Be kind to yourself, your teacher, and your classmates

Supplies:

- Your assigned laptop computer, charged, and power cord
- Your AVID binder
- A pen or pencil, and correcting tool
- Other supplies may be distributed as the year progresses

Expectations and consequences:

- Schoolwide expectations are explained in the first pages of the Garry planner
- Failure to comply with expectations may prompt a reminder, teacher conference, parent phone call, referral for intervention, removal from class, or other consequences.
- Special note on cellphones: they can be an amazing tool, but also a huge distraction. Therefore, they should not be seen or heard in the classroom UNLESS the teacher gives direct permission for use with a specific task. Students may choose to place their phone in a designated storage area in the classroom for the duration of class or be asked to do so by the teacher if necessary.

Grading policy:

Each assignment and test will be assigned a point value. Your grade for each assignment – and the class – will be calculated as a percentage that correlates to a letter grade and grade point. For instance, if a quiz had a 20-point value, and you earned 16 points, 16 divided by 20 is 0.8, or 80%. Percentages correlate to letter grades and grade points as follows:

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point
93-100	A	4.0
90-92	A-	3.7
87-89	B+	3.3
83-86	B	3.0
80-82	B-	2.7
77-79	C+	2.3
73-76	C	2.0
70-72	C-	1.7
67-69	D+	1.3
60-66	D	1.0
Below 60	F	0

- Entry tasks will be worth 2 points every day, for a total of 10 points per 5-day week.
- Assignments, quizzes, and tests will be assigned point values based on their complexity and amount of information they cover.
- Late work can be made up for full or partial credit!
 - Absence: upon return to school, it is your responsibility to confer with the teacher to determine what needs to be made up. You may need to make arrangements with the teacher before/after school or during lunch to complete assignments. Work completed in a timely manner may earn full credit.
 - Non-absence: reduced credit will be given to work turned in late.
 - Missing work will be given 0 points until it is made up
 - Late work cannot be made up after the end of a quarter or semester

Attendance and participation are vital to your learning and your grades! Assignments are aligned to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and are designed to deepen students' understanding of the content. They are not “busy work”. Quizzes and tests will only cover content/concepts from classroom lessons.

A final note to parents:

I am privileged to teach your child science this year and look forward to an awesome year of learning! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at any time. A copy of this syllabus will be added within the “files” tab of your child’s science Team for reference. Please take time to review this syllabus with your child and sign below, indicating you have read the information contained herein.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent name: _____

Parent signature: _____