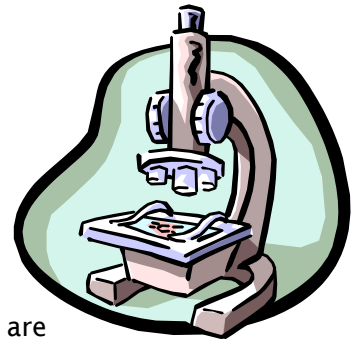


Honors Biology

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General Information

Honors Biology is a rigorous freshman level biology course. Students who are considering taking advanced courses should begin think about their future curriculum during their first two years of high school. This course is designed to meet state standards and prepare students to take more advanced science courses. Topics in this course will include:

Biochemistry	Genetics
Cell Structure & Transport	Evolution
Energy	Classification of Life
Cell Cycle & DNA	Ecology

Grading is on a point scale and category weights are used to compute an average grade at the end of each grading period. This is also a Milestone (End-of-Course-Test) course, and periodic Summative Unit Tests will also be administered to help students gauge their progress in mastering the material and concepts presented in the course.

Activities and Coursework

Activities will vary in the classroom. Many laboratory activities are included on a regular basis. A technique called Whiteboarding is also used so that students can demonstrate their understanding of a topic that we are covering. I encourage you to ask your child what whiteboarding means! ☺ Modeling will also be done in the classroom to demonstrate certain biological processes. Argumentation will also be done – which is a scientific argument, not a debate. This means that students will state or select a claim that answers a scientific question, use evidence/data to support that claim, and then justify their evidence based on what they have learned in class.

Keys to Success

It is **strongly recommended** that students are reviewing information from Biology each night for 15-20 minutes. Using the **BILL – Biology Interactive Learning Log** – is **HIGHLY** encouraged. Students can add to information, write down questions they are having, or make notes about additional information based on what has been done in class or read in their book. This will increase retention of the material and improve study habits for more rigorous courses in the future. To assist students in staying organized, a science notebook is required for class and will be collected and checked periodically. The syllabus your student will receive explains how the notebook must be set up and maintained. A classroom calendar is also available online for students who are absent to find their make-up work. I am available before and after school each day for students to seek extra help or tutoring.

Resources

The following are resources and texts that students will be using in and out of class:

Biology: Concepts & Connections – available as a hard copy or online

Canvas class website – Online portion of the course

Various Computer Simulation Programs for Biology

Online Tutorials

Interactive RecordX board

“The important thing in science is not so much to obtain new facts as to discover new ways of thinking about them.”
--Sir William Bragg

Unfortunately, students will not be able to use a “class set” of supplies this year, and it is strongly recommended that students do not share supplies that are commonly used in class as there will not be time to sanitize them.

Supplies needed for Biology:

- 1 or 3 subject spiral bound notebook – try not to get one that has perforated sheets
- Writing utensil – pen or pencil
- Glue sticks OR clear tape
- Colored pencils OR markers – set of 8 is sufficient
- Scissors
- Lined composition notebook
- Highlighter
- Water bottle – school/county request as we will not be able to use water fountains. There are water bottle fill stations near the cafeteria.

If you can donate a container of Lysol/Clorox wipes OR disinfecting spray OR a refill / concentrate of disinfecting spray, that would be fantastic and greatly appreciated!!! Student tables will need to be wiped down frequently this year. The school will supply hand sanitizer and soap for use in the classroom.

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