

Life Science 7

Mrs. Ahlsen

vahlsen@pobschools.org



Introduction and Course Overview

Hello and welcome to Science 7! This year we will be examining various components of life science and interactions of living things with the environment. We will cover the following major topics within the life science curriculum:

- Structure, Function, and Information Processing
- Growth, Development, and Reproduction of Organisms
- Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems
- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Natural Selection and Adaptations

Grading policy Percentage of grade

Exams/ projects	55%
Labs and quizzes	35%
Homework / preparation	10 %
Total	100%

1. **Exams and Quizzes** – Tests and quizzes will generally consist of multiple choice, short answer, extended response questions and lab skills task. They are designed to test your understanding and prepare you for the midterm and final exam. This approach helps benefit both the student and the teacher by keeping you informed of your ongoing progress.
2. **Labs**- Labs give students the opportunity to test the concepts covered in class using scientific methods. They will generally be hands-on, inquiry based activities. All students are expected to follow all written and oral safety instructions for EVERY lab. Labs must meet quality guidelines to be accepted for grading. All discussion questions must be answered in complete sentences, and all answers must be legible.
3. **Class Preparation**- *Be prepared*- bring required materials to class every day and have homework ready to be checked at the beginning of the period when it is due.

- 4. Homework-** Homework is essential to ensure that material learned during class is retained, and helps the student to measure their understanding of the coursework. Doing homework consistently will help you considerably! Homework is due at the beginning of class for full credit. *Late homework will not receive full credit*

Required materials: Life Science work book, Chromebook, **multi subject binder** with a *specific* section for Life Science, loose- leaf paper, pens and pencils and a folder.

Classroom rules and procedures:

1. Respect all members of the classroom. This means using appropriate language, raising your hand to speak, and attentively listening when the teacher is talking. This also means that you are actively listening to the thoughts, discussions and questions of your peers.
 - *Class discussion and conduct-* this means that you participate in the class by asking and answering questions, and contributing to the classroom conversation. You must conduct yourself in a manner that is appropriate to the educational setting of our classroom at all times.
 - *Group work-* Collaboration is an important element in both the practice of science and in many workplace environments. It is a skill that we will work on for the duration of this course.
2. Create a positive classroom environment that fosters learning.
3. Check the board for important information: homework, due dates, tests, etc.
4. Be prepared and be responsible. Be sure to have your assignments, notebook, pen, pencil, planner and any tools necessary for success.

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment

Parents and Guardians – *Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's education or anything stated above, please feel free to contact me via email at vahlsen@pobschools.org*

Cooperation between everyone involved in the student's education is important for success. For this reason, I plan on contacting parents/guardians regularly to inform them of progress or any behavior issues. Students, please sign below to indicate you have read and understand the policies of my classroom. Please have a parent or guardian sign below after they have read it.

Student name (print)_____

Student signature_____Date_____

Parent/Guardian signature_____

Date_____