

7th Grade Life Science

Mrs. Tebbens

Course Description:

In 7th grade Life Science, students will develop an understanding of how life is organized from molecules to ecosystems, genetics, and the basic mechanisms of heredity and reproduction in living organisms. Students will also explore how changes in organisms over time have affected the survival of populations and their evolutionary relatedness. Lastly, students will develop an understanding of the interactions and dynamics that exist in ecosystems and how energy and nutrients cycle through ecosystems.

Units of Study
From Cells to Organisms
Body Systems
Reproduction
Evolution
Ecology
Biomedical Engineering

Materials:

- ★ Please have your Chromebook charged and ready for class **every day**.
- ★ These items may *occasionally* be used, so try to have them close by:
 - Notebook and/or loose leaf paper
 - Pencil/pen

Schoology/Google Meet:

- ★ The Schoology page for this class will contain a copy of this syllabus, as well as all learning materials, assignments, tests, etc. This is also where students will access their digital science notebook, course texts, and lesson details. Students will need to log in daily and stay current on all assignments to be successful in this course.
- ★ Students are expected to attend all synchronous learning sessions during their assigned class time via Google Meet.
- ★ Students must use the meeting nickname (posted by me in Schoology) to access their synchronous learning session.

How to join:

1. **Go to meet.google.com**
2. Click **Join** or start a **meeting**.
3. Enter the **nickname**.
4. Click Continue and then **Join** now.

Attendance Policy (per QACPS):

Revised Student Attendance Regulation:

*In the event school buildings are closed and students are engaged in Distance Learning; students who are present will be coded as DL (Distance Learning). At the secondary level, **students must log in to each class daily to be counted as present. Students who are unable to login due to connectivity issues or other restrictive barriers must communicate with their teacher or the school's front office to be counted as present.** If a student is present in the building for small group instruction, the present code of SGI will be used. During a Distance Learning scenario, parents are required to document their child's absence using the same protocol as when school buildings are open. See item 4 in the Attendance Regulation. The Student Attendance Regulation can be found [here](#)*

Expectations:

- ★ All students are expected to uphold the school's Virtual B.A.R.K standards (see next page for details)
- ★ Absences: It is the **student's responsibility** to check Schoology and complete makeup work.
- ★ Academic Ethics: You are never to copy answers from another student's work and attempt to use them as your own. You are never to copy/paste answers from an internet source and attempt to use them as your own.

Safety:

- ★ All teacher demonstrations of laboratory activities/investigations will be conducted in a school laboratory setting, utilizing proper safety precautions as outlined in QACPS safety guidelines.
- ★ Students are **not** to attempt any such laboratory activities/investigations in their homes.

Grading Policy (per QACPS [website](#)):

- ★ **Mastery Assessments:** projects, performances, unit tests, chapter tests, and if applicable, midterm and final exams. 50%
- ★ **Progress Assessments:** class work, progress checks, quizzes 50%
- ★ **Retakes/Revisions:** A Progress Assessment can be redone **one time** up until the Mastery Assessment. There is no threshold for the grade the student may earn for the resubmission of the progress assessment.
- ★ **Missing/Late work:** In the event that a student does no work on the assignment or fails to turn in the assignment, "NTI" will be assigned (NTI = Not Turned In). The "NTI" will be a grade of 40%. Work accepted after the due date is not subjected to a lower grade due to lateness. **Once the Mastery Assessment is taken for those standards, any work not received will remain the grade of NTI, with the value of 40%.**

Communication

- ★ Feel free to email at any time (kristin.tebbens@gacps.org). Please understand that responses could take up to 24 hours.
 - ★ Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from the hours of 9:00 - 11:15 AM and 3:15-3:30 PM.
*I will not be available from 8:00-9:00 AM to accommodate daily planning time.
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Please understand that due to the nature of virtual learning, many of the items outlined in this syllabus are subject to change based on Board work sessions and policy changes.

Virtual B.A.R.K.

BE PREPARED

- Log in on time
- Be present/actively engaged
- Organize your materials
- Set daily goals
- Make yourself visible
- Have a backup plan in case you get disconnected
- Charge device when battery is low

ACT RESPONSIBLY

- Complete tasks on time/Stay on top of assignments
- Complete preparation work
- Reach out to teacher for help
- Create a workspace where you can focus without distractions (to yourself and others)

RESPECT OTHERS

- Follow directions
- Wait for your turn to speak/participate
- Utilize chat features appropriately
- Mute microphone when others are speaking
- Respect others' opinions/Use kind words
- Use proper text etiquette (can be misinterpreted in a digital setting)

KEEP SAFETY IN MIND

- Resolve conflict peacefully
- Take care of your needs
- Alert a teacher or adult if you or a classmate is struggling (educationally, emotionally, socially)

