

**Hephzibah Middle School**

**7th Grade Life Science**

**Mr. Timothy L. Lyons**

**Course Syllabus 2023-2024**

**Course Details:**

The Seventh Grade Georgia Standards of Excellence for science are designed to give all students the necessary skills for a smooth transition from elementary life science standards to high school biology standards. The purpose is to give all students an overview of common strands in life science including, but not limited to, diversity of living organisms, structure and function of cells, heredity, ecosystems, and biological evolution. Seventh grade students keep records of their observations, use those records to analyze the data they collect, recognize patterns in the data, use simple charts and graphs to represent the relationships they see, and find more than one way to interpret their findings. They make and use observations to explain the diversity of living organisms and how the organisms are classified, how they reproduce and how genetic information is passed from parents to their offspring. They use different models to represent systems such as cells, tissues, and organs. They use what they know about ecosystems to explain how matter cycles and energy flows through the ecosystem. They use the concepts of natural selection and fossil evidence to construct explanations about the diversity of life that they see. Seventh graders plan and carry out investigations, describe observations, and show information in graphical form. The students replicate investigations and compare results to find similarities and differences.

**Curriculum Map:**

Unit 1: Structure and Function in Living Systems

Unit 2: Genetics

Unit 3: Evolution

Unit 4: Classification

Unit 5: Interdependence of Life

**7th grade Science students will learn:**

1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to investigate the diversity of living organisms and how they can be compared scientifically.
2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to describe how cell structures, cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems interact to maintain the basic needs of organisms.
3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain how organisms reproduce either sexually or asexually and transfer genetic information to determine the traits of their offspring.
4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to examine the interdependence of organisms with one another and their environments.
5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information from multiple sources to explain the theory of evolution of living organisms through inherited characteristics.

**Expectations:**

1. Respect:
   1. Treat teachers, classmates, guest, classroom materials, desk and other property with respect.
   2. Participate in class. Tell us what you think. Show what you know. Explain!
   3. Behave in a manner that reflects the good and appropriate behavior you have been taught.
   4. Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before you share.
2. Responsibility:
   1. Arrive on time and ready to learn.
   2. Come to class daily with all supplies.
   3. Learn and retain materials taught to you.
   4. If you need help, ask!

**Consequences: Hephzibah Middle School Behavior Plan will be followed**

1. Verbal Warning
2. Student-Teacher Conference
3. Call Parent/ Guardian
4. Parent Conference
5. Referral to Administration

**\*\*\*Exceptions will be strictly enforced and students will be reminded of these expectations through the school year. \*\*\***

**Academic Grade Reporting:**

Middle school student performance will be recorded and reported in all courses by numerical grades, based on a 100-point scale.

**Calculation of Final Grades**

Final grades will be determined by the cumulative semester average using the following criteria:

**Minor Grades = 60%**

Examples include quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study

**Major Grades = 40%**

Examples include unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments, and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study.

**Content Mastery Assessments**

These assessments will be given quarterly in all core content areas.

**Academic Grading Scale**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A** | Represents an average of **90-100** |
| **B** | Represents an average of **80-89** |
| **C** | Represents an average of **75-79** |
| **D** | Represents an average of **70-74** |
| **F** | Represents an average of **below 70** |

**Late Work**

Students are expected to complete and turn in assignments by the assigned due date. If you are absent on the day the assignment is due, please turn in your assignment the day you return.

**Make-Up Work**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments missed due to absence from school. It is the student’s responsibility to ask teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-Up work must be completed within 5 days of returning to school.

**Tutoring:**

Available upon request of student or parent.

**Conferences:**

Please contact me directly to schedule a conference.

**Contact Information:**

**Phone: (706)592-4535 (School)**

**(945)300-9432 (mobile)**

**Email: LyonsTi1@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us**

**Remind: text @hmsrebels7 to 81010**

**\*\*By signing below, we acknowledge that we (my child and I) have read and understand the Course Syllabus for 7th grade Life Science for the 2023-2024 school year. Please sign and complete this sheet and keep the syllabus in your folder or binder. \*\***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_