

...Home of the Dragons...



Life Science

7th Grade

Lakisha Williams
Course Syllabus 2020-2021

Course Description and Objectives

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.

Textbook

McGraw Hill Life Science

Unit/Concept Names

Unit 0 Think Like a Scientist	Unit 3 Classification
Unit 1 Structure & Function of Living System	Unit 4 Evolution
Unit 2 Genetics	Unit 5 Interdependence of Life

Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities

At least one project will be assigned each 9-week grading period. This will be an extension or enrichment of the concepts discussed. Students will have 1 to 3 weeks to complete each project depending on the complexity of the task. Some tasks and/or projects will be completed in class (specifically the unit culminating tasks – these MUST be completed in class only).

Course Assessment Plan

Students will receive a variety of assignments designed to enhance their learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment. Students who have an excused absence will be allowed five days to turn in the missed assignment. No work will be accepted after five days.

Evaluation (Schoolwide Grading Policy)

- Formative Assessments 60% (Quizzes, Class work, Group Work, etc.)
- Summative Assessments 30% (Unit & Chapter Test, Projects, Tasks)
- Homework/Other 10% (assigned at teacher's discretion)

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Grading Policy : A (100-90) B (89-80) C (79-75) D (74-70) F (69-0)

Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's progress using the district

Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

<https://campus.rcss-k12.org/campus/portal/richmond.jsp?status=portalLogoff&lang=en>

Classroom Expectations

1. Students are expected to be **ready** to learn when they come to class. This means being on time, and being prepared with materials and assignments.
2. Students are expected to be **respectful** of other students, adults, and their environment.
3. Students are expected to be **responsible** for their own actions, attitudes, and behavior.

Discipline Policy:

Students are expected to follow the classroom and school behavioral guidelines. In the event that disciplinary action is administered, the discipline policy outlined in the Student Handbook will be followed.

Discipline Checklist

These are some of the strategies I will use to deal with minor discipline issues.

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Time-out | 3. Call Parent | 5. Guidance Referral |
| 2. Silent Lunch | 4. Detention | 6. Parent-Teacher Conference |

Course Materials

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| * 3-ring Binder | * (1) Package of Dividers (5 Tabs) | * Ear buds |
| * (1) –Composition Notebook | * Pencils (preferably mechanical)/ sharpener | * Loose Leaf Paper |
| * Liquid Glue | * Coloring Utensils (color pencils, markers, or crayons) | |

My contact information:

Email: WilliLai@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us

Front office: 706-737-7288

Resource(s):

iReady.com

Sign up for **REMIND** (class reminders), please join: Williams 7th Grade: send to: 81010 Message box: @w7grade
Life Science: send to: 81010 Message box: @w21science (class code)

Teacher Webpage:

<https://www.rcboe.org/Domain/16172>

(This bottom section needs to be completed by a parent/guardian)

Parent Name (print and signature)

Contact Information (cell and email)

Child Name (print)