

Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School Biology Syllabus

Mrs. Walden Text: Pearson (Miller & Levine) Room 123D

waldeju@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us



Parent/Student Remind Codes

3rd Period: text @waldenbio3 to 81010

4th Period: text @waldenbio4 to 81010

6th Period: text @waldenbio6 to 81010

Course Description: Biology students start by developing an understanding of the cellular structure and the role these structures play in living cells. The students develop a fundamental understanding of the role of bio-macromolecules, their structure and function as related to life processes. The students then analyze how genetic information is passed to their offspring and how these mechanisms lead to variability and hence diversity of species. They use cladograms and phylogenetic trees to determine relationships among major groups of organisms. Biology students can recognize the central role the theory of evolution plays in explaining how the diversity observed within species has led to the diversity of life across species through a process of descent with adaptive modification.

Tentative Year Outline:

- Nature of Science
- Cellular Structures and Transport
- Cellular Processes
- Genetics
- DNA/RNA & Protein Synthesis
- DNA Technology
- Evolution and Classification of Organisms • Ecology

The units listed above represent a proposed sequence of learning to accomplish each GSE objective. Assignments, projects guidelines, laboratory information and other important announcements are maintained on my Canvas class page.

Major Course Projects & Tests

All students are expected to complete a science fair project by following the scientific method. Other projects may be assigned throughout the year. At the end of the year students will take the Georgia Milestones End of Course Test in Biology. This test will count for 10% of the final grade. Students are expected to score at the proficient or advanced level on the test (an 85 or higher).

MATERIALS NEEDED in class each day:

- Laptop
- 3-ring binder with loose leaf notebook paper
- Binder Dividers
- Colored Pencils/highlighters
- Scientific Calculator
- Index Cards
- Writing Utensils (Pencils /Ink Pens -blue or black only)
- Glue sticks
- Earbuds/Headphones
- Handheld pencil sharpener

Instructional time is very important. Therefore, NO passes will be issued during class time. Exceptions may be discussed with the teacher for medical reasons only. This classroom will adhere to the RCBOE Code of Student Conduct Policies regarding make up work and attendance.

Office Hours

Parent-teacher conferences can be scheduled through the guidance department. The phone number is 706823-5580.

Tutoring

Tutoring will be available on Wednesday from 3:30 -4:15 with at least a day in advanced notice and a confirmed pickup time with parent or guardian. To schedule please email waldeju@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us or message through the Remind app.

Grading Policy

Students are expected to invest genuine effort into each assignment.

- Minor Grades = 60% of a student's grade (classwork, quizzes, labs, homework)
- Major Grades = 40% of a student's grade (unit tests, project-based assignments, and other culminating assessments)

Late Work

Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student's work habits through an academic contract. Late work will be reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher's discretion. Completing work in a timely manner during the learning unit is essential for academic success. Students are given ample time to complete their work both in and outside of class. Additionally, students and parents may contact me if they have questions about the work or need assistance meeting the due dates.

Class Expectations

- Be prepared (Bring materials daily)
 - Be respectful.
 - Be on time.
 - Work hard (Stay on task)
 - Stay in your seat, unless given permission by the teacher to move around the room.
 - You are responsible for following the guidelines for a safe laboratory experience as described in your lab safety agreement. Any deviation from appropriate laboratory behavior may result in exclusion from laboratory activities.
 - Students must abide by the Richmond County School System Acceptable Use Policy when working on RCSS computers.
 - FOOD, BEVERAGES (except for water), GUM, AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT GOES IN YOUR MOUTH ARE NEVER ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM. Exceptions may be discussed with the teacher for medical reasons only.
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Disciplinary Policy

1st Offense- Verbal Warning

2nd Offense-Refocus Station

3rd offense-Parental Contact

4th Offense-Parent/Teacher Conference

5th Offense- Administrative Referral

Steps 1-4 may be eliminated if the student's behavior is severe enough to require disciplinary action by any administrator. In this case the student will be immediately sent from the class to the office, or the front office will be contacted and asked to send someone to escort the student from the class to an administrator.

RCSS Cell Phone Policy

1. No Cell Phones During Instructional Time: Students cannot use cell phones, smartwatches, headphones, or other electronic communication devices during the instructional day. This includes class periods, changes, study halls, and other structured or non-structured instructional activities.
2. Devices Must Be Out of Sight: All electronic devices must be stored out of view during the instructional day. This applies to all areas of the school, including common areas, hallways, restrooms, and locker rooms.
3. Emergency Communication: In emergencies, students may use the main office to make necessary calls. Parents and guardians can also contact their children by calling the school's main office, where staff can relay urgent messages. Our anonymous Safety Tip Line is also available to share concerns about student or school safety at (706) 828-1077.

This syllabus is subject to change.

Please detach this page from the syllabus and sign to acknowledge you have received and read through the syllabus.

Return to Mrs. Walden by Friday, August 8, 2025. Thank you!

I have read the syllabus for Biology, and I understand the content and requirements for the year. I understand that this syllabus is to be always kept in the front of my science binder after it is signed by me and a parent or guardian.

Print Name (Student)/ Student signature

Date

Print Name (Parent)/ Parent/Guardian signature

Date

Parent contact numbers: _____ Parent
email address:

Please make sure you have joined Remind.

Parent Remind Info:

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