**Mrs. Gilbert’s Biology I Syllabus-Fall 2016**

1st Block Plan

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Room number: 376

**COURSE OUTCOME:**

* **Course Description:** The goal of Biology I is to develop an understanding of the diversity and unity of living things. Concepts covered include current and emerging technologies as well as interactions of organisms with their environment, chemical structure of organisms, transfer of energy in organisms, cell structure and function, continuity and change in living things, diversity of living things. And evidence of biological evolution. This course includes preparation for the state AYP/EOC.
* **Standards:** Curriculum standards can be viewed at <http://science.knoxschools.org/modules/locker/files/group_files.phtml?gid=498766&parent=3928834&sessionid=b79dc63ee171fe5f9758c2572935c364> then click on Biology I. Also, they are posted in the classroom.

**INSTRUCTION:**

* **Topics:**

**I. Chemistry of Life**

Carbohydrates, Lipids, Proteins, Nucleic acids, Periodic table basics, and Enzymes

**II. Cell Biology**

Parts of a cell, Types of cells, Cell theory, Mitosis, Meiosis, Light-dependent and light-independent reactions of photosynthesis, and Aerobic and anaerobic respiration

**III. Genetics**

Monohybrid and dihybrid crosses, Multiple alleles, Polygenic traits, DNA replication, Protein synthesis, Mutations, DNA fingerprinting, and Human heredity

**IV: Ecology**

Biomes, Food chains and food webs, Symbiotic relationships, Human population ecology, Water cycle, Carbon cycle, and Nitrogen cycle

**V. Biodiversity & Change**

Kingdoms, Dichotomous keys, Fossil record, Natural selection, and Comparative anatomy

* **General Pacing:** Knox County has a pacing guide for this course. It will be posted in the classroom and is available for you upon your request.
* **Materials Needed:**  100 page spiral notebook, composition notebook, black pen, pencil
* **Text:** Miller, K., & Levine, J. (2002). *Biology.* Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall.
* **Fees:** There is a $15 fee for this class. It includes dissection specimens, lab chemicals, food (for models), and paper products.
* **Resources**
* ***School-based*:** United streaming video clips, The “Planet Earth” video series, The PBS “Evolution” series, and a biome video series, are some videos that may be viewed in class. Any videos to be shown not included above that are not already pre-approved for view by the Knox County Science department will have a permission note sent home about them prior to their being shown.
* ***Outside*: film clips (ratings), novels, speakers, etc.:** We might have guest speakers from the Knoxville Zoo and IJAMS Nature Center.

If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.

* **Safety Procedures:** A lab safety agreement will be discussed and must be signed by the student and parent/guardian before the student will be able to do labs.

**ASSESSMENT:**

**Grading Policy:** A 93-100 B 85-92 C 75-84 D 70-74 F 0-69

**Grades will be determined based on the following point system. Tests~100 points each; Quizzes~20-25 points each; Labs~20-100 points each; Projects~100 points each; Notes~ 2-5 points each day; Opener~1 point each day; Closer-1 point each day; Worksheets & Activities ~10-50 points each= Total~75% of your final grade and EOC~25% of your final grade.**

 **Literacy is a school-wide goal. Therefore, we will be reading current event science articles, short answer questions on tests, reading aloud, and having reading discussions all based on being able to pick important evidence out of the text.**

**The EOC is a statewide exam and the date it will be administered will be discussed in class. Remember that this will count 25% of your final class average.**

**Explanation of Interactive Notebook:** In the 100 page spiral notebook each section will be divided by unit. It will include: standards, notes, openers, daily work, & quizzes. It will be graded every couple of weeks. (More details will be discussed in class and a sample will be kept for students to reference when they are absent.)

**Make-Up Work Policy:** All make-up work is the responsibility of the student. If the student is absent it is his/her responsibility to check the interactive notebook at the front of the room to see what he/she missed. Make-up tests and quizzes should be taken care of before or after school and/or during enrichment time. A student has one week from the date of the missed test or quiz to make it up before the grade becomes a zero. Specific details will be discussed in class.

**Re-do Policy:** The re-do policy applies to attempted work, not to be confused with missing work. If a student feels the need to re-do an assignment he/she will have the opportunity. A re-done assignment will have a maximum value of 90%. Before being allowed to re-do an assignment the student must first have tutoring of some type, this will be at teacher discretion. The assignment may not be exactly like the original assignment and must be done outside of regular class time (such as during enrichment time, before school, or after school). There are some exclusions to this re-do policy, such as: EOCs, labs, or any other assignment specified by the teacher ahead of time.

**December Dash:** \* A student must have an average of 65-69.4 and have passed the EOC to be eligible for Blitz.\* Students who are eligible for BLITZ must complete an application to participate in the BLITZ program.

**Portal Post Policy – Teacher Commitment to Post Grades to Aspen *at least* once per week.**

One way in which I am able to communicate with the student and parent is through Aspen. In order to give timely feedback, I will update grades at least once per week.

**GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:**

* **Students:**

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend class every day. However, if they are absent they are expected to make up the work missed.

**Classroom Policy/Procedures:**

1. Be on time with book, paper, pencil, and homework. This means that you are in your seat and ready to go when the tardy bell rings (otherwise you are tardy)!

2. Don’t disturb other students who are trying to learn. Talking when instruction is being given should not occur. Be respectful.

3. Do not mark on any furniture, lab equipment, or other items in the classroom. If you mark on them you will get to clean them!

4. Follow all lab safety rules.

5. No eating or drinking in class. The only exception to this rule is water.

6. No bathroom breaks will be given the first 15 minutes of class. Also, no breaks will be given the last 15 minutes of class. You will only be given eight passes to leave class per semester, so use your passes wisely. You will not be allowed to use another student’s passes. Also, if you do not have your passes with you in class you will not be allowed to go.

7. Stay in your seat until the bell rings to end class. Failure to follow this rule results in all students staying after class.

**Tardy Consequences:**

Every time you are tardy you will sign the tardy log and serve tardy detention. If you choose not to complete your tardy detention you will be assigned ISS or another punishment deemed appropriate by an administrator.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

Cell phones are not allowed to be used in my classroom at any time!

**Honor Code:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If a test is copied or a project is not properly cited the result will be a zero for that assignment. If another type of assignment is copied in any way, unless it is partner work, the grade will be split between the students. For example, if two students copy each other’s work and the work receives 100% both students will receive 50% instead.

**Board Policy 1-431: The board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion-and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following:**

* **Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs, provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;**
* **The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature, and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and**
* **Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech, and debate.**
* **Teacher:**

**Intervention Strategy:** Tutoring will be offered once per week in the 30 minute period and after school (details will be discussed in class).

I have read the syllabus and agree to follow it. I will not receive my exit passes or be allowed to do labs until I have signed this syllabus. I also understand that I must sign a lab safety agreement to do labs.

I have read the syllabus and understand it. Any questions I have are listed below and will be answered through the e-mail provided or through the parent portal. I also understand that I must sign a lab safety agreement for my child to do labs.

Questions:

Best way to contact parent/guardian:

Phone- E-mail-