LIFE SCIENCE COURSE SYLLABUS

Ms. Diehl – 7TH GRADE

2019-2020

This year you will be studying Life Science. This course will introduce basic life science concepts through inquiry labs, models, hands-on activities, and technology. Students will expand scientific vocabulary, improve reading skills, and enhance writing proficiency. The topics covered are: the history and nature of science as it relates to life science, cells, genetics, evolution, classification, human biology, ecology, and environmental concepts. This course will follow the recommended science standards for the state of Georgia which can be found at https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pages/BrowseStandards/ScienceStandards6-8.aspx

TEXT: Life Science, by Prentice Hall, is the official 7th grade science book. However, other texts will be used as supplemental materials, and will be used as class sets only. Worksheets and handouts should be treated as text material and will be used as such.

SUPPLIES: 1 inch three ring binder, composition notebook (Do Now’s), BLUE OR BLACK PENS ONLY, pencils, crayons, personal pencil sharpener, page protectors

GRADING POLICIES: Your grade will be determined simply by averaging everything you do in class and at home. You will receive daily grades in the form of homework completion and classwork participation. You will be given quizzes as we cover small amounts of information, and tests that will cover all information contained in one unit of study. Quizzes will count the same as your daily grades – tests will count **twice**. As we work on different units we will conduct labs and carry out class projects. These will both count at least twice in the grade book, with most projects counting 4 times, which you will find will help your average quite a bit.

HOMEWORK: will be assigned every day – many times your homework will include reviewing class assignments, notes, or studying and may not include actual written work.

\*\*\*\*\* Please be sure to have access to the Parent Portal of the MCSD website so that you can keep up with your average. Please be assured that you may always discuss this average with me if you feel there is a discrepancy.

Extra credit work is generally NOT assigned. It is my philosophy that you need to spend your time doing the required work instead of “extra work”. However, there are numerous opportunities to receive extra points by bringing in needed classroom supplies and by participating in group competitions or extra digital research.

Please do not wait too long if you do not understand something. You may come after school for extra help if necessary if you will just let me know a day ahead of time so I may clear my calendar for you. Remember, I am here for YOU!!!

\*\*\*\*\* Please remember that late work and no name papers will be penalized by loss of points. Many times the answers for an assignment will be discussed in class on the due date, so there won’t be another opportunity to complete forgotten work. There will never be more homework given than time allows, so use your time wisely and get it done.

LATE WORK POLICY –

1st day – 15 point deduction

2nd day – additional 15 points off

3rd day - additional 15 points off (after this date, no late work will be accepted)

LABS: Labs are an integral part of any science class. You will be participating in many investigative labs, as they are a fun and useful way to discover and practice class information. However, labs are also a time for seriousness. It is imperative that each student concentrates on positive and safe participation in these exercises. Horseplay and clowning around **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. Any student acting in this manner will be removed from the lab, given a zero (test grade) for the lab, and will have to complete an alternate seat assignment for the remainder of the time the class is involved in the lab.

MAKE-UP WORK: All students are responsible for obtaining work missed for excused absences. The student should check Canvas Calendar to find the work and turn it in ***within 3 days*** of the absence, unless other arrangements are made with me. Tests need to be scheduled with me so as to allow for make-up time; notes should be obtained from a classmate. If the student does not check for the work, and complete it in a timely manner, the student may be subject to a zero.

CONTACT INFO/KEEPING IN TOUCH:

My email: diehl.april.d@muscogee.k12.ga.us – the best way to contact me

School phone: 706-569-3801- you may leave a message

School website: <https://schools.muscogee.k12.ga.us/sites/aaroncohn>

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STUDENT SIGNATURE DATE

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PARENT SIGNATURE DATE