**Pre AP Biology**

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Biologyis the branch of science that deals with the study of living organisms. In **Pre AP Biology**, students will conduct laboratory investigations using scientific methods and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving.

**Pre AP Biology** is a yearlong course that is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Biology course usually taken as a junior or senior in high school.

We use the Arkansas curriculum frameworks for Biology as our guide in this course.

**Assessment**

Homework 5% of total grade

Class work 5% of total grade

Lab 25% of total grade

Quizzes 15% of total grade

Tests 50% of total grade

**Supplies**

This year we will be using an Interactive notebook (INB) as a means to stay organized and keep up with our learning. Interactive notebooks are customized notebooks that act as a media for notes, homework, labs, and activities to be completed in. It houses almost all of what your student will be learning this year. The INB is used in place of a 3 ring binder and tabs. Materials that are crucial to this class will include a spiral notebook (Which I am supplying) and pencil/pen (Either is fine). We would greatly appreciate other materials that we will use a lot as a class- **scotch tape and paper towels.**

**Text:** Modern Biology, published by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston; each student will be assigned a numbered test and will be responsible for the upkeep of that text during the year.

**Safety**

This is always a major concern in Biology labs and activities. Students and parents will be asked to sign a lab contract, insuring the safety of each student through proper behavior in lab. We will spend at least 25% of our time in lab; therefore safety is an extremely important issue.

**Classroom rules**

1. Be on-time, on task, & prepared to learn everyday

 2. Keep all personal electronics put away

3. Be responsible for your own learning

4. Respect the teacher, the classroom and other students

5. Raise your hand to speak or get out of your seat

 6. Clean up after yourself

**Course Overview for the year**

* Nature of Science
* Cell Biology
* Genetics and Biotechnology
* Evolution
* Ecology
* Microbes, Protists, and Fungi
* Plants
* Invertebrates
* Vertebrates
* Human Biology