



Seventh Grade Life Science Syllabus 2024-2025

Prattville Junior High School

1089 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Prattville, AL 36067

Welcome to Seventh Grade Life Science!

Welcome to Life Science! I am certain that you will have a meaningful, memorable, educational, and successful seventh grade experience at Prattville Jr. High School. Please know that I have been waiting on you. I look forward to sharing scientific concepts and experiences that will motivate you to be life-long learners as you embark on your new educational journey. There are high expectations for this class. Thus, **ALL** are expected to work hard and strive to do their absolute best.

Teacher: Dr. Ericka R. Woodson **Room:** 4

Email: Ericka.Woodson@acboe.net or Parent Square Messaging

Phone: 334-365-6697

Google Classroom/Reminders & Schoology: See Dr. Woodson for more information.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

During this course, students will acquire an understanding of scientific concepts and proficiency in scientific skills concurrently. All content standards from the Alabama Course of Study-7th Grade Science will be used to teach this course. The overall essential questions of this course are “*What is the never-ending story of life?*” and “*Why do living things die?*” Throughout the course, students will explore life science as a process, the chemistry related to living organisms, cell structures and functions, genetics and heredity, evolution, diversity of living organisms, and their ecological roles, as well as an introduction to animal structure and function. Students will continue to strengthen their skills in using scientific tools and models, organizing and analyzing data, making observations and inferences, and asking quality questions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students should have an understanding of living organisms, from the smallest cells to complex ecosystems as well as a thorough understanding of correct lab procedure and safety, experimentation, and how science relates to the world around us.

CLASSROOM AND LAB SUPPLIES

CLASS & LAB SUPPLIES		OPTIONAL SUPPLIES
3 Ring Binder (2 in.)	4 Rolls of Scotch Tape	Hand Sanitizer
Composition Notebook	4 Glue Sticks	Clorox/Lysol Wipes
Loose leaf Paper	Post-it Notes	Ream(s) of Copy Paper
Colored Pencils		Kleenex
Scissors		Paper towels
Note cards		Lab Donation of \$10 to purchase project and lab supplies
Pencils/Pens		
Students must have the materials listed on the above list.		

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Be Punctual

- Be in your assigned seat and working on assigned bell work before the bell rings.
- Tardy students without an excuse from the office or another teacher will receive disciplinary action.

2. Be Prepared

- Bring all required materials to class each day.
- Have pencils sharpened and begin bell work.

3. Be Polite and Respectful

- Treat each person with respect and dignity. Refrain from making negative comments.
- Use materials for their intended purpose and put them away when you are finished. Students who waste or abuse materials will replace them.
- Raise your hand and wait for permission to talk or leave your seat.
- Refrain from eating or drinking in the classroom unless medical documentation is provided.

4. Be Responsible

- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- You are responsible for completing any assignments missed when you are absent.

5. Be Persistent and Positive

- Be willing to explore new topics with a good attitude and work through challenging assignments.
- Work cooperatively in small groups and whole class activities.

6. Be Safe

- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Follow all safety rules when working in the lab.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Classroom rules and procedures are in place to ensure that the teacher can safely educate students and students are able to learn in a safe and orderly environment.

- Students will enter the classroom, sit in their assigned seat and immediately begin bell-ringer work. You can not enter my classroom, sit bookbags down and then leave the classroom. You will be considered **tardy** if you come to class without a note. After 10 minutes, if a student comes to class without a note, it will be considered **skipping**.
- All pencils will be sharpened by the student BEFORE the tardy bell rings.
- Students should use the restroom during CLASS CHANGES. Students will only be allowed to use the restroom if it is an emergency. Should your student have bathroom emergencies often, the nurse and parents will be notified of the possible issue.
- Notebooks are to be kept in order. Bellringers, notes, diagrams, etc, will all be kept in the notebook. A table of contents must be included in the front with the name, date, and page number of the assignment. There will be regular notebook checks that will count as a major grade throughout each semester.
- Students will be able to participate in labs throughout the year, but if they do not follow lab safety procedures, they will be removed from the lab and do seated work quietly.

CELL PHONE PROCEDURES

Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will not be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary action.

CONSEQUENCES

- Warning
- Conference with student with parent notification
- Parental Contact
- Teacher/Parent/Student Conference
- Detention
- Referral

All discipline will correspond with the Autauga County Board of Education Code of Conduct.

GRADING POLICY

- Students are responsible for completing and turning in all assignments on their due date.
- Grades are calculated using a total point scale following district grading policies.
- Assessments (Test & Quizzes), Labs and Projects =65%
- Homework, Classwork, Participation, and Bell-ringers =35% (Grading criteria is per district policy.)
- **All printed work and notes are kept in the student's notebook.**
- **ANY AND ALL CHEATING WILL RESULT IN A ZERO.**

Make-up Work (from ACBOE Code of Conduct)

- Make-up Work (Excused Absences)
 - If a student is absent for any excused reason as defined above, the student shall be allowed to make up schoolwork and/or examinations missed during said absence or absences. **In my classroom, there will be a crate with daily folders that have handouts. Also, all work will be available on Schoology.**
 - For sixth through twelfth grade students, the student shall be responsible for contacting the teacher or teachers immediately upon return to school to arrange a reasonable length of time, not to exceed one (1) week, to make up work and/or examinations.
 - Teachers shall not be required to re-teach lessons, but students shall be given reasonable opportunity to learn lessons missed due to excused absences.
- Make-Up Work (Unexcused Absences)
 - Teachers are not obligated to reteach lessons for unexcused absences.
 - Teachers are not obligated to provide make-up work for unexcused absences.
 - Students may receive a zero on missed assignments for unexcused absences.



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Syllabus Acknowledgment Form

My signature verifies that I have read and understood the Seventh Grade Life Science Syllabus which outlines the expectations for my scholar in Life Science. My scholar has read and understands their responsibility for this class.

Student Name (Print): _____ **Period:** _____
Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____
Parent/Guardian Email Address (Print): _____
Date: _____

Please sign and return to Dr. E. Woodson by August 12, 2024.