

Syllabus for Life Science  
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**Course Objectives:**

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in Life Science serve as important benchmarks to ensure that all students are receiving high-quality education and are well prepared for success in postsecondary education and the workforce. The standards for middle school science provides a coherent, rigorous, and rich curriculum in preparation for advancement to the next grade level.

The required text is Holt California Life Science

Supplementary material will be used in class based upon the learning needs of students.

**Materials:** Suggested materials to have in class every day.

- ★ A folder just for science
- ★ A spiral notebook just for science
- ★ Lined binder paper
- ★ Pencils

**It is mandatory that the school planner be brought to class and updated each day in class.**

**Expectations: All school rules apply in the classroom setting.**

- Follow the Panther Way
  - Be Responsible
  - Be Respectful
  - Be a Problem Solver

**Class Rules**

- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Food and drink, except water, are not allowed.
- Raise your hand and wait to be called on.
- Maintain a safe and respectful classroom
- No unauthorized electronic devices.

**Consequences will follow school guidelines:**

1. Warning and redirection
2. Restorative Justice meeting and/or seat change
3. Phone call home
4. Detention
5. Referral
6. Any severe infraction will result in a referral and a phone call home.

**Positive Consequences:**

- 1. Panther Bucks
- 2. Panther Postcard
- 3. Phone call home.
- 4. Verbal and/or written praise

**Class Time:**

Class time is very important and every moment spent on learning counts. It is expected that students will enter the classroom calmly at a voice level of 0 to 1 and sit in their assigned seat. It is of utmost importance that students arrive on time to class and ready to engage in academic instruction. We have 50 minutes a day in class and missed instruction leads to a lack of progress. Take care of any needs such as bathroom and water prior to the beginning of class. It is suggested that you have a water bottle, preferably a reusable container, so that water is accessible without leaving the classroom. The bell does not dismiss students, the teacher will dismiss students when they are seated in their assigned seats unless otherwise specified.

**Grading Policy:**

Students will have many opportunities to demonstrate achievement and progress through homework, classwork, notes, quizzes, tests, presentations, or group projects.

The class will adhere to the following grading policy:

- 90-100%      A      Outstanding
- 80-89%      B      Above Average
- 70-79%      C      Demonstrates Understanding
- 60-69%      D      Struggling
- 0-59%      F      In need of further intervention.

**Homework:**

Homework may be assigned on Monday-Thursday and will be explained the day it assigned. Homework is due at the beginning of the period the next day. Any classwork that is not completed during the period will become homework. It is expected that students will be engaged and on task during the class period. I will grade homework and return it to students in a timely manner such that they may fix any errors and turn it in for additional credit.

Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to an absence.

**Late Work:**

Late work will be accepted without penalty within a week of the due date. Later work will not be accepted after the cutoff date at the end of each grading period. These dates will be announced near the end of the grading period.

It is my great pleasure to serve as your students teacher at Natomas Middle School. Please review this syllabus with your student and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone or email. Once you have reviewed the syllabus with your student please sign and return the signed copy.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_