

Life Science and Technology

7th Grade ● 2009 – 2010 ● Mrs. Gonzalez



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Office Hours: By appointment at break, lunch, or after school

Life Science is the study of all living things - everything from the smallest microscopic unit of life to how your own body works. All my students will be scientists and critical thinkers. You will learn how to ask meaningful questions about the living world and conduct careful investigations using the scientific method. Everyone will need to be able to use scientific terminology and concepts as they apply to this class and scientific theory. Each one of you will also need to be able to apply these problem-solving skills to real world situations. This will require that you are always thinking about the world around you and making connections between what we study in school and how it might relate to your every day life.

Class Locations: *Mondays and Tuesdays:* Computer Lab – Library Annex
Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays: Room 210

Topics Covered:

- ✓ The Scientific Method
- ✓ Characteristics of Living Things
- ✓ Tools and Systems of Measurement
- ✓ Cell Biology
- ✓ Genetics
- ✓ Evolution
- ✓ Human Body Systems

Materials:

- Textbook: Holt Science and Technology, Life Science.
Books must be covered at all times.
- 1 – 1 inch binder with hard cover
- Loose leaf lined paper – college ruled with three holes (to put in your binder)
- Student Planner: provided by IHMS
- Black/Blue Pens: These are the only ink colors allowed!
- Red Pens: for in-class corrections
- Pencil: for math problems only
- Pencil Sharpener (with a compartment to collect shavings) *
- 4 -Plastic protective sheets for your binder with 3 holes
- USB Key
- Art supplies: Colored Pencils, Scissors *

Classroom Guidelines:

- ✓ Arrive to class on time.
- ✓ Enter the classroom prepared with your supplies and ready to work.
- ✓ Be an active listener and follow directions.
- ✓ Be courteous, respectful, and responsible for your actions and choices.
- ✓ There is no room in our classroom for put-downs. Avoid them at all costs!
- ✓ Lying, plagiarism, or cheating will not be tolerated. Always keep in mind the IHMS Honor Code.
- ✓ Be a risk-taker. Always strive to do your best.
- ✓ When in doubt, ASK!

Grading: Students earn their science grades by participating actively in class and completing homework assignments, quizzes, projects, tests, and semester exams. Students will keep track of their own grades in this course using a grade sheet provided by the teacher.

Attendance: Regular attendance is essential for success in this course.

Students are responsible for getting homework assignments on days in which they are absent, either from the IHMS website or another student, and to return to school with as much work completed as possible. Absent work must include an ABSENT SLIP, or it will not be accepted. Students are encouraged to see the teacher regarding questions about any assignments and due dates.

A student who is absent *the day before a test or quiz*, but present when the test was scheduled, should be prepared to take the test or quiz with the class.

A student who is absent *on the test or quiz day only* should be prepared to take the test or quiz on the day she returns.

**If you know you are going to be absent, let me know in advance and we can make arrangements for you. If you are on campus during any portion of the school day, your homework will be due and any scheduled quizzes or tests must be taken. It is your responsibility to come see me if you arrive late to school or leave early and miss your class period.

