

# LIFE SCIENCE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mrs. Sanborn

Email: [msanborn@smls-hawaii.org](mailto:msanborn@smls-hawaii.org)

Website: <https://smlsmiddle.weebly.com/>

Seventh grade science deals with life science, or basic biology. The class will focus on topics related to changes, cycles, patterns, and relationships in the living world. We will examine cellular organization and the classification of living things, the relationships between organisms and their environments, and the transmission of genetic information.

- I. **Quarter 1**
  - a. Introduction to Earth Science (Chapter 1)– Scientific Method, What is a Hypothesis?
  - b. Living Organism (Chapter 2) – Classifying Living Things
  - c. Microscopes (Chapter 2): How to Use a Microscope
  - d. Cells (Chapter 3) – Parts of a Cell
- II. **Quarter 2**
  - a. Cell Process (Chapter 3) – How Do Our Cells Provide Substances for Our Body?
  - b. Genetics (Chapter 4 & 5) – How did I get Brown Eyes? Christian Views on Genetics
  - c. Evolution (Chapter 6) – What is Earth’s History?
- III. **Quarter 3**
  - a. Bones, Muscles, and Skin (Chapter 14)
  - b. Food and Digestion (Chapter 15) – Nutrition
  - c. Circulation (Chapter 16)
  - d. Nervous System (Chapter 19)
- IV. **Quarter 4**
  - a. The Endocrine System and Reproduction (Chapter 20)
  - b. Populations and Communities (Chapter 21)
  - c. Ecosystems & Biomes (Chapter 22)
  - d. Living Resources (Chapter 23)

Note: Order, timing and content subject to reasonable revisions.

## **Textbook:**

The Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science Textbook is the official textbook for this course. Students will be given a copy of the textbook at the beginning of the year and required to return it at the end of the year. **Textbook must be covered** (size: 11 ½ x 8 ½)

**Materials:**

For this class, you will need the following items:

- Prentice Hall Science Explorer Life Science Textbook
- Notebook
- Loose-leaf paper
- Pencils
- Pens (black, blue, and red)
- Highlighter

Being prepared for class with the required materials contributes toward your class participation grade.

**Expectations**

- Be respectful – of the teacher, of your classmates, and of the room.
- Be responsible – come to class on time and prepared, demonstrate positive actions.
- Be a positive student – ask questions, be enthusiastic to learn and contribute

**Grading:**

Grading is based on an accumulation of points earned by the student throughout the quarter. On average, students can accumulate between 600-700 points, depending on the quarter.

**Sample Quarter**

Possible Points:	700
Student Earned Points:	568
Grade: $(568/700) * 100 =$	81.1% B

<b>Category</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Class participation	Come to class on time with necessary materials, engaged with lesson, complete warm-ups & exit tickets
Homework	Due at the <u>beginning</u> of class
Quiz	Open-note, given at the end of each lecture
Class Assignment	In-class labs & activities
Project	Individual & group work, Includes science fair deadlines
Test	Closed-note, given at the end of each unit

The grading scale is as followed:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percentages</b>	<b>Quality (GPA)</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percentages</b>	<b>Quality (GPA)</b>
A	90-100	4.0	C	70-76	2.0
B+	87-89	3.5	D+	67-69	1.5
B	80-86	3.0	D	60-66	1.0
C+	77-79	2.5	F	0-59	0

Percentage grades that are .5 or higher will be rounded up to the next whole number.

Grades can be accessed at any time via Gradelink. I will update grades at least once a week. Copies of most missing assignments will be given to students if asked for.

### **Extra Credit**

Extra credit is periodically given throughout the year and is used to strengthen one's understanding of the course material. Any extra credit will be assigned to the entire class and never to a single individual.

### **Cell Phone/Smartphones/Electronic Devices**

Inappropriate use of cell phones/smartphones will result in consequences recommended under Saint Mark Lutheran School school use policies.

### **Late Work**

Due dates are important to follow in order to not fall behind, to perform well on the assessments, and to ensure a solid grade. Assignments turned in after the due date will result in an automatic **15% deduction** (highest possible grade is a B: 85%). *A grade of 0% will be immediately assigned for all missing work after one week.*

Deadlines will be posted on the class website, on the board in the classroom, and given verbally. Exceptions may be made for excused absences and will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Communication is key and I appreciate an open line of communication. *Please email me as soon as you know you will be turning in a late assignment.*

### **Absent Policy**

It is the responsibility of the student to pick up missing work from the classroom or request it from the office. Student will be given the allotted time to make up any missing work. If you are absent for one day, you have one day to complete the assignment.

### **Academic Integrity**

In this course, collaboration among students is encouraged for labs and class activities. However, copying another's work *or allowing your work to be copied* **is not acceptable** and is a violation of academic integrity. Group work often facilitates similar answers, so please *write down the names of classmates* with whom you worked and shared ideas on your assignments, or you risk not receiving full credit. Regardless, you should NEVER HAVE IDENTICAL WORDS OR PHRASES AS ANY OTHER STUDENT.

**Cheating is absolutely unacceptable and will result in an automatic 0%.**