C:\Users\vdm10262\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\W1BTHYE5\MC900059274[1].wmf**LOST MOUNTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**AC Life Science Syllabus**

**2019-2020**

**Teacher:** Lauren Puckett  **Email:** [Lauren.Puckett@cobbk12.org](mailto:Lauren.Puckett@cobbk12.org)

**Grade:** 7th

**Planning Time:** 9:25 am – 11:02 am **Science Blog:** <http://puckettsclass.weebly.com/>

To view all of the Georgia Standards of Excellence for the 7th grade life science course, please visit: <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Seventh-Grade-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

The middle school life science course is designed to give students the necessary skills for a smooth transition from elementary school life science standards to high school biology standards. The purpose is to give all students an overview of common strands of life science including but not limited to the diversity and classification of organisms, the structure and function of cells and human body systems, the study of heredity (genetics), the theory of evolution, and the interdependence of organisms (ecology).

**The Units of Study:**

* Structure and Function of Cells
* Organization of Life (Human Body Systems)
* Biological Traits and Heredity (DNA and Genetics)
* The Evidence for Evolution Theory and Classification of Organisms
* Ecology: Interdependence of Life, Energy Flow, and Ecosystems

**Classroom Goals:**

* The student will have an understanding of the various disciplines taught during the school year.
* The student will develop a curiosity about how the world works and the living things around them.
* The student will develop and practice process skills and behaviors used by scientists.
* The student will understand the impact they have on the environment and on all living things.
* The student will solve problems using scientific inquiry methods.

**Guidelines for Success:**

Students can be successful by remaining organized. In order to do this, students should do the following:

* check blogs daily
* bring paper, binder, writing utensils, agenda, and science workbook to class daily
* complete all assignments in a timely manner
* study for quizzes and tests
* behave in a manner that does not distract yourself or others from learning or the teacher from teaching
* treat others the way you wish to be treated

**Course activities and projects:**

A variety of learning activities will be performed during the school year. The type will change according to the unit and the needs of the students. I am available to help students before school most days by appointment. Learning activities can include: labs and investigations, internet activities and inquiries, videos, handouts, visual presentations, projects, and cooperative groups.

**Assessment Weights: Grading Scale:**

Summative (Tests and Projects)-----------50% 90-100 A

80-89 B

Formative (Classwork, Quizzes, Labs)---40% 74-79 C

70-73 D

Homework---------------------------------------10% Below 70 F

**Advanced Content Course Requirement:**

The course framework and instructional strategies for this course are differentiated in content, pacing, process skills emphasis, and expectations of student outcomes from the typical 7th grade life science course. Course content has been designed for mastery and extension of state and district performance standards. The course is appropriate for students who have high achievement and interest in science. Lost Mountain has established criteria and guidelines to identify students who will be successful in this course. Students are placed in this class according to specified indicators of demonstrated exceptional ability and motivation. Students must meet continuation criteria of an **80 class average** to remain in the class.

**Make-Up Work:**

If a student is absent, he or she has one day for every day absent to make up work without penalty. The same applies to long-term assignments, tests, and quizzes. The student can check the blog to find out what he or she missed and the student can get make-up work from me and/or from the forms attached on my blog. It is the responsibility of the student to check the class blog every day they are absent. Tutoring/help sessions/make up sessions are provided upon request.

**Late Work:**

Late work will be accepted following the school wide policy that states:

1 school day late = -10 points

2 school days late = -20 points

3 school days late = -30 points

**Work will not be taken for a grade after 3 days.**

**Reassessment (Do Over) Policy:**

When a student receives a 73% or below on a summative test or project, they will be given the opportunity to examine the items missed and complete accelerated intervention in order to be able to reassess. Upon successful completion of test analysis, accelerated intervention, and reassessment students will earn up to a 74% on the summative test or project. Quizzes will not be eligible for reassessment as quizzes are a part of the formative assessment category. **Late projects will not be re-assessed.**

**Needed Supplies:**

-pencils (if not mechanical, please have a small handheld sharpener of your own)

-blue or black pens

-colored pencils

-dry erase markers

-3x5 index cards

-10 file folders

**Classroom Supplies Donations:**

-tissues

-disinfecting table cleaning wipes (such as Clorox or Lysol)

-paper towels

-Ziploc bags (of all sizes)

**Behavior:**

Behavior will be monitored according to the LMMS Eagle Card policy.

\*Parents, please sign below as an acknowledgement that you read and understood the syllabus and the policies and procedures of this class, particularly the grading practices. I am looking forward to a great year with your student. Thank you!

Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

\*I reserve the right to alter this syllabus as it becomes necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of this class. Students will be made aware of any necessary changes in a timely manner.