

Life Science:

Class and Labs

Grades 7-8

Course Syllabus

2026-2027

Course Objectives:

- Apply the **scientific method** and **design thinking process** to investigate living systems
- Explain how **cellular, tissue, organ, and system structures** are purposefully suited to their functions.
- Describe levels of biological organization from **cells to ecosystems**.
- Describe how **genetic information** guides growth, development, and reproduction.
- Communicate scientific ideas clearly using written, oral, and visual formats.
- Learn the scientific method and how to use scientific inquiry.
- Gain knowledge on the subject through ten main topics: cells, taxonomy, viruses, bacteria, plants, animals, human body, genetics, heredity, and ecology.
- Reflect on how the **order, complexity, and functionality** observed in living systems demonstrate purposeful design by a divine creator and inspire responsible stewardship of life.

Course Components:

- Instruction on keywords, ideas, and concepts in class
- Reading 8-18 pages of text each week (4 days per week)
- Student Activity Completion each week (4 days per week)
- Completion of labs
 - We will NOT do every single lab, as some are more time consuming for little knowledge gained. We will complete the most beneficial labs, as well as, labs that I want to supplement with for deeper benefit.
 - Some simple labs WILL be completed at home
- Study guide completions at the end of each module
- Module Tests - these will be taken at home (we do not have the time to complete in class) but I would ask that parents supervise.
 - I will be making the tests so they will be straightforward and directly related to student learning.

This course is a survey course in the field of Science. The text contains 7 chapters. We will ONLY be COVERING 5 CHAPTERS, and NOT in order. We will not be

covering: Human Body and Genetics. This will be covered in depth through a future Biology Course. Each module will take about 4-6weeks to complete working on a 4 days per school week for about 45 minutes per day. This provides us with flex time over breaks and holidays for students to get a time to recharge. If however, students fall behind in the work when it is assigned, it may be hard to keep up. So therefore, when the work is assigned, it would need done in the weekly timeline that it is given. Class time is a great time to ask questions that they are struggling with.

Course Materials:

- One Inch Three Ring Binder - This will be their LAB/Supplemental Materials Binder.
- Purposeful Design: Life Science Textbook or E-book (companion texts- using both- is often the best for students)
- Purposeful Design: Lab Manual - this also has all the worksheets we will be needing!
- Mrs. Kris Created Supplemental Book (\$10) - includes all project pages, study guides etc. This will be available at B2S Night and can be purchased then!
- Safety Goggles
- Lab Shirt

* We will NOT be going in order, please be sure to follow the course calendar (in their notebooks) for the order of study!