

Teacher: Miss Nelson  
 Student Teacher: Miss Hermie  
 Email: [joninelson@dist228.org](mailto:joninelson@dist228.org)  
 Homework: [joninelson10@gmail.com](mailto:joninelson10@gmail.com)

Office Hours: Must be by appointment.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Semester: 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Periods  
 Room: 47  
 \*Info can also be found on Miss Nelson's Blog.

**Class Expectations:** Expectations for this class are very simple.

1. Respect: Respect your classmates, your teachers, and all equipment at all times.
2. Responsibility: Be responsible for yourself, your belongings, and your work. Take pride in yourself and what you do.
3. Honesty: Complete your own work, adhering to scientific standards.

**Class Textbook:**

\* Modern Biology, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2006, ISBN #: 0-03-073542-4, available in the classroom and to be checked out.

\*Earth Science iBook, available through Miss Nelson's Blog

**Materials Needed EVERY DAY:**

\*Textbook

\*Notebook/Loose-leaf Paper: We will be taking notes and doing other activities in class that will require paper.

\*3-ring, 2" binder with 8-10 tabbed dividers: You are **required** to have this, as it will greatly enhance your organization skills. Tabs serve as separators for each unit & materials within each chapter.

Binder order updates will be given periodically as the mandatory order of contents. The binder will serve as the review/study guide for final exams.

\*Writing Utensils: Pen AND pencil with eraser.

\*Calculator: A simple calculator, or phone calculator will work.

**Description and Objectives of the Course:**

Biology is the study of life. Throughout this course we will examine the study of life through the process of science. Observing and posing a question, along with making a prediction and developing a means to testing that prediction is essential to understanding Biology. The objective of this course is to develop problem-solving skills in students and to teach them how to properly document and communicate their findings. For this purpose, summative assessments may come in forms that are not traditional objective unit tests. These assessment methods will include projects, research papers, experiments, and other opportunities for students to APPLY what they have learned, not just recite information. Biology is designed to prepare for more rigorous science classes, including the Prairie State Achievement Exam and ACT.

**Grading Procedures:**

Weighted Categories:

**Tests-35%**

**Quizzes-20%**

**Labs/Projects-30%**

**Classwork/Homework-15%**

Grading Scale:

**A=93-100%**

**B=85-92%**

**C=77-84%**

**D=69-76%**

**F=0-68%**

Grades will be posted to the Internet via Skyward Grading Program, and will be updated weekly. Check your grade regularly on Skyward and notify me of specific discrepancies. Grades will not be posted in the classroom, nor will they be given in class. It is your responsibility to know what your grade is.

**Late Work/Make-Up Work:**

1. If you are absent from class, make-up work will be allowed according to the policy defined in the school handbook for excused, unexcused, suspension absences, etc.
2. As you are all responsible young adults, you are expected to turn your work in on time. For every day the assignment is late, 10% will be deducted from the overall assignment prior to grading.
3. After 5 days late, half credit will be taken only until the end of the current quarter.
4. It is encouraged that you get your work done **ON TIME** every time, as late work is a bad habit and deductions are detrimental to term grades.

