

## **Biology Quarter 3 Syllabus**

**What are we doing?** In science, we are striving to develop our students as critical thinkers and problem solvers. Our goal is to provide students with the tools and knowledge necessary to apply the scientific process throughout their lives.

Specific process goals for the quarter:

- Curriculum is designed so that students are driven to search for answers to things they do not know
- Curriculum is authentic and real
- Curriculum will cover Massachusetts Science Frameworks
- Students are invested in their work
- Students have freedom to explore what they are most interested in
- Students will present their work in authentic and public ways

**What are we studying?** The quarter has been divided into small units to help students to focus on different areas of biology. The units are:

- Life Around Us – characteristics of living things
  - classification of living things
- How Living Things Survive – plant systems
  - plant cells
  - animal cells
  - animal systems
- Evolution and Genetics

### **Student expectations:**

- Students are expected to turn in all homework and rubric work **AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS ON THE DAY IT IS DUE**. This means that work must be **PRINTED** before class starts (students are welcome to use the printer in HB King between 7:30 and 7:45). After this deadline, work will lose a ½ grade for each day it is late.
  - As extenuating circumstances always exist, exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis. Please follow this protocol for late homework or rubric work:
    - Email the teacher the night before to describe the situation.
    - Discuss the situation with the teacher that morning (at 7:30)
- Students are expected to complete an independent project that will require at school and at home work throughout the course of the quarter. These projects will be presented at a parent night at the end of the quarter.
- Students are expected to be active members of the classroom community. This means engaging and participating in class, completing all homework assignments and volunteering for and completing 3 Class Jobs throughout the course of the quarter.
- Work completion (and class job completion) will be recorded on a Work Completion Chart in the classroom. At any given time, a student may read the chart to know what assignments they are missing.

**Revision:** We feel strongly that students should have the opportunity to revise and resubmit work, evidencing their increase in knowledge. Students may revise and submit any graded assignment for a new grade. At times, work will be returned to students with no grade, simply a “Revise”. This work was returned to the student because the teacher believed that the student was capable of work of a much higher quality. The student MUST revise and resubmit this piece to receive a grade. Ungraded “revise” work will be returned to the student a maximum of three times. At this point, if the assignment is still not of an acceptable quality, it will receive a Warning.

**Extra Help:** Tuesdays 2:50-3:50

**Teachers:**

Sue Jensen [sjensen@innovationcharter.org](mailto:sjensen@innovationcharter.org)

Peggy Stephens-North [pstephensnorth@innovationcharter.org](mailto:pstephensnorth@innovationcharter.org)

Katharine Hinkle [khinkle@innovationcharter.org](mailto:khinkle@innovationcharter.org)

HB King: Ms. Jensen

HB Einstein: Jan. 30- Feb. 25 Ms. Jensen and Ms. Peggy, Feb. 25- Apr. 9: Ms. Jensen and Ms. Hinkle

HB Hershey: Jan. 30- Feb. 25 Ms. Peggy Feb. 25-Apr. 9 Ms. Hinkle