

Bracken County Middle School
8th Grade Science
2008-09 Course Syllabus

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Course Description

8th grade Life Science is an overview of humans, heredity, and ecology. Emphasis will be placed on the nature of science, traits and how they change, interactions in human systems, interactions of life, nonliving environment, and ecosystems.

Comments

The main goal of the class is to learn about life science and how those principles effect their lives. Students will be expected to arrive to class prepared, have assignments completed and ready to turn in, and respect others. Students will participate in several scientific labs throughout the year, where they will be asked to become critical-thinkers and problem-solvers in those laboratory situations. This class will also help prepare students to be successful on the science section of the state assessment.

Course Standards

- Unity and Diversity – all matter is comprised of basic elements, goes through energy transformations, and uses forces to move.
- Biological Change – the only thing certain is that everything changes.
- Energy Transformations – energy transformations are inherent, such as those involving growth, dying, and decay of living systems.
- Interdependence – species depend on one another and on the environment for survival.

Method of Grade Calculation

Students will be evaluated on class assignments and activities including, but not limited to, the following: class work, homework, tests, and folder

Textbook

Biggs, Alton; Feather, Ralph; Rillero, Peter; Zike, Dinah, Science, Glencoe, New York, 2008.

Required Materials

- Paper
- Writing Utensil
- Folder

Classroom Rules & Procedures

- Arrive prepared for class (paper, pencil, book)
- Have assignments completed and ready to turn in
- Stay in your seat
- Respect others
- Be recognized before you speak
- Sharpen pencils or get Kleenex as needed, without disruption
- Put your name on all assignments
- Put returned papers in your folder immediately

Classroom Participation /Attendance Policy

Students will be expected to be on time and prepared for class with all necessary materials. Attendance is of vital importance, as much of the work is done in class. Only students with excused absences will be given grades on make-up work.

Calendar of Course Content

Humans and Heredity
Ecology

4 Weeks
5 Weeks