

High School Biology, 2018-2019
Tuesdays: 9:35-11:00 and Thursdays 10:10-11:10
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Teacher: Dorrie Peace

Student Fee: \$70*

Class size limit: Maximum 12

Class Overview: This course will consist of both lab instruction (most Tuesdays) and a review of the chapter being covered (Thursdays). Using the text *Science Shepherd Biology*, we will approach biology with a micro to macro approach beginning with basic biochemistry, cellular biology and genetics. Afterwards we will learn about organisms from the 5 kingdoms and end with human anatomy and physiology. We will not cover all the chapters in the book. Due on the first day of class will be the chapter readings on the origin of life (chapters 17-19) and questions from those 3 chapters. There is an *optional* Honors level component (see below) that will include papers.

Required Text Materials: *Science Shepherd Biology* (2nd Edition) by Dr. Scott Hardin ISBN: 978-0-9828568-4-0, MD, Biology Answer Key and parent companion (2nd edition) ISBN: 978-0-9828568-5-7 to check student's answers, Biology Test booklet (2nd edition) ISBN: 978-0-9828568-6-4 and the Biology Lab Manual ISBN: 978-0-9814587-1-7. There are some used materials available in the used market place – please make sure they are the 2nd edition. <http://www.scienceshepherd.com/biology/>

Class Time: Students are expected to come prepared for each class. The material that will be covered must be read beforehand. Tuesdays – we will be performing experiments and making observations. Students will be instructed in proper laboratory technique and use of lab equipment. Students will record observations and data in their lab manual and will answer the questions from their lab manual. Four lab reports are required. All these will be turned in for grading. On Thursdays we will review the week's reading.

Homework: Plan on 5-7 hours each week; most of the learning is done through reading the text. A schedule for reading, assignments, and tests, will be given for each chapter. Student should be able to keep up with written assignments, read text, and study independently. Homework will be due weekly on Tuesdays. Work not turned in will incur a 10% deduction in grade for each day that the assignment is late. There may be some supplemental reading to cover certain topics in more detail. Each student will participate in the Year End Event by creating a display board related to a topic of specific interest to the student related to our study of Biology.

Tests: Tests come with the curriculum, and are taken (closed book) by the student at home after every chapter, approximately every-other week. **Parents will be expected to proctor these tests at home.** A midterm or final exam may be given.

***Lab fees:** Fee includes dissection specimens, consumable lab supplies, and costs to maintain our non-consumable equipment, such as dissection kits, prepared slides and microscopes.

Grades: A recommended grade will be provided for the course based on student test scores, lab book grades and class participation.

Helper information: 1-2 helpers needed to assist with labs and to help set up before class. Some biology knowledge is helpful, but not necessary. Helpers check work, help with experiments (including dissections) and clean up after labs.

Optional Honors Level Requirements: One paper/summary on the Origin of Life (based on the summer reading – minimum 3 pages typed), approximately 2 additional lab reports, and a research paper to go along with the Year End Event project (minimum 7 pages not including graphs, pictures, etc.) will fulfill the requirements to make this an Honors level course. I would encourage all students to begin taking this course as an Honors class. If during the year the family decides not to continue at an Honors level, that extra work will be used as extra credit.