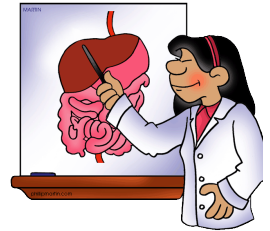




7th GRADE LIFE SCIENCE!

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Assalamu Alaikum, and welcome to 7th Grade Life Science! I am pleased to have you in my class and I look forward to getting to know you. I have high expectations for you and I am positive that you will be up to the challenge. If you are able to follow directions, work hard, keep up with attendance, and have an open and positive mind, I can guarantee you that I will do my best to help you succeed this year. Below are some guidelines and expectations for you to keep in mind.

Class Description:

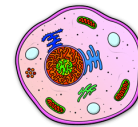
One of the first questions 7th grade students ask is, Will we dissect frogs this year? The answer is YES sometime during the third quarter. 7th Grade Life science is an integrated science course, with a focus on life science. Major topics of study this year includes: Safety, Cell Theory, Genetics, Human Body Systems, Plants, Classification, and Ecosystems.

A basic review of the year is listed in the following table:

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safety - Nature of Science - Cells and Cell Theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genetics - Human Body Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plants - Classification - Variations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecosystems - Human Activity

Materials Needed:

- 3 ring binder (at least 1.5 inches) for class materials
- Notebook loose-leaf paper
- Pencil or pen (blue or black ink only)
- Scientific Calculator



Class Expectations:

1. **BE PREPARED:** Come to class on time and be prepared – that means bringing all of your materials and homework. No excuses.
2. **BE PROMPT:** When class starts, you should be sitting in your assigned seat and working on your warm-up. If you are running into class with one foot over the line, you are late. You must take out your homework at the start of each class.
3. **BE POLITE:** Be respectful and courteous of others at all times. Raise your hand to speak if you have a question or comment. Stay in your seat unless you have permission to do otherwise. Be aware when others or I are talking. There is to be NO writing on desks or cabinets at any point in time – immediate action will be taken if this is seen. At the end of class I will dismiss you.
4. **BE PRODUCTIVE:** Follow all the directions of the teacher – this is especially needed in lab. Be willing and ready to “do science” as you walk through the door! We will always be thinking logically and doing something cool. Come with an open mind, and you will like it!
5. **BE REPECTFUL:** There is NO place in my room for swearing, teasing, or name-calling. This is not of Islamic conduct. If you have a problem, let me know and we can deal with it in an according manner. That will probably get way more respect points from me than if you act otherwise. In addition, cell phones and any mp3 players/electronic devices should be put away. If they are seen they will be confiscated. Think about the message you are sending me when you are texting away.
6. **BE SAFE: NO EATING OR DRINKING IN THE LABORATORY.** There are no exceptions to this rule. Water is the only drink allowed in the classroom during lab days. There are various chemicals in the room that should not be near your mouth. This is consistent with school policy. Just don't do it!

All class expectations are referenced in the Al Fatih Mission.

Behavioral Consequences:

- 1st offense: Reminder and Redirection
- 2nd offense: TAB in
- 3rd offense: TAB-out with mini conference and parental contact
- 4th offense: Administrative referral

All Al Fatih policies will be employed in this class. Refer to your Handbook to make sure you are familiar with school policies, especially those regarding attendance, cheating, plagiarism, and dress code.



Grading Scale:

- A = 100% - 90%
- B = 89.9% - 80%
- C = 79.9% - 70%
- D = 69.9% - 60%
- F = 59.9% - 0%

- Each class assignment receives a specific number of points. The student's grade will be determined by dividing the number of points earned by the total number of points possible and then multiplying by 100 to obtain the overall percentage.
- Grades will be available online to parents and students and will be updated weekly. If you do not have internet access, let me know and I will print you a grade sheet biweekly.

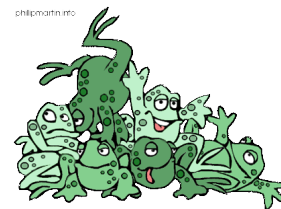
Grading:

Grades are weighted as follows –

Homework: 10%

Class-work, Warm-ups, and Lab Work: 60%

Tests and Quizzes: 30%



- All graded work should be kept in a 3-ring binder in chronological order. It is recommended to keep a section for Warmups, one for Notes, one for Classwork, and one for Graded Work.
- Each day a warm-up will be written on the board. You are expected to copy the question on your **warmup paper** AND write the answers in your warmup with the appropriate dates. If you miss a class, it is up to **you** to find the question you missed and record the correct answer. I will collect your warm-ups at the end of every week and grade them on accuracy and correctness.
- You should expect quizzes in this class. We will also have a test at the end of every unit. Students must study to do well on them. Lab reports/projects will also be completed for each lab and it will be mostly a group effort.

Homework:

You should expect to receive homework at least 3 times a week. The homework that is given is meant for you, not me. That means that it is an opportunity for you to practice skills or extend the concepts we covered in the previous class, and it gives you a chance to understand what your strengths and weaknesses are. All assignments will be clearly announced and posted on the board. They must be done neatly, and will be handed in first thing in the morning into the "Box of Love." Failure to complete **three** homework assignments will result in a conference, after which escalating measures will be taken. If you have an excused absence, you will be able to make-up the work WITH PRIOR approval. **Work turned in late (unexcused) will be marked as "Not Submitted."**

Attendance:

Absences and incomplete assignments will greatly impact your final grade. You are expected to be in class with your homework ready. If you have an excused absence from class when there is an assignment due, the late work will only be accepted for credit with PRIOR teacher approval (not the day the assignment is due!). If you miss a class, please check with your classmates to find out what you have missed and see me for further help. I will always save your absent work in a labeled folder in my room. It is your responsibility to make up the work that is missed within one week. Students will have one week to make up a missed test.

Bathroom Policy:

It is understandable that there will be times where you may need to use the restroom. However, this opportunity will not be granted at all times. You will **NOT** be allowed to use the bathroom during notes, lab, class discussions, or at the beginning and ending of each class. This is especially true for those who have just come in after lunch. **Only one person is allowed to be out at one specific time.** The best time to use the restroom during class is between transitions from one activity to another.

Lab Safety:

We will have a lot of opportunities in this class to have exciting labs. Due to the nature of this course and the chemicals/animals that we will be dealing with, it is very important that students carefully follow the teacher's directions at all times. Students should not touch any equipment unless the teacher gives permission. Any student who breaks or damages any equipment on purpose will be required to pay for its replacement – any unpaid damage will become a school obligation. **It is essential for students to wear their goggles at ALL times the teacher specifies.**



Students who fail to comply with any of the guidelines listed above or in the Student Safety Contract will be doing an activity other than the lab and their grade will possibly be penalized. Students who do not have a parent/guardian sign their contract will not be allowed to participate in lab.

Extra Help:

If you find yourself stuck on some concepts/assignments from class and you need help, please come see me before it is too late! I am available by appointment during or after school. I also have a website that you may visit in case you need to see extra resources or want to look at what we've been covering. You may also email me with questions. The best way you can earn a good grade is to put forth a consistent effort and stay caught up. Inshallah you can do this!

