Welcome to Apologia Exploring Creation With Biology!

WELCOME! Apologia Biology is a fantastic journey into LIFE! I am very excited to share this journey with your family. God's amazing creations really "come to life" in this class. We have lots of fun projects, dissections, microscopic adventures, and games planned to bring understanding and knowledge to every student.

Below, you will see are the details of the class. There are a lot of details to attend to in a high school level class. Use the syllabus, it will help you keep all of the details straight.

Class Description:
Biology is a year long class. We will cover 16 biology modules in 32 weeks. Each module will take about 2 weeks to complete. Module tests will be given in class. Tests are scheduled for every other Wednesday in class so it is important that students keep up with the scheduled reading and assignments. Most experiments we will do together in class. A lab report will be completed for each lab. A couple of fun projects are scheduled throughout the year that will be completed at home. Reading Assignments, Vocabulary, On Your Own Questions, Study Guides, and Lab Reports will be done at home.

Required Supplies:
- Apologia Exploring Creation With Biology, 2nd Edition
- 3 ring binder for keeping lab reports and handouts
- 3x5 note cards for vocabulary words
- Note taking materials (pencil, paper)
- Colored Pencils for drawing lab observations

Recommended Resource for Parents:
Teacher's Guide can be utilized by PARENTS as needed to coach students from home.
* Please note: Test questions/answers are in this guide and therefore this guide is NOT intended to be a study aide to be used by students.
* This is not a mandatory resource, I am always available by email, phone, and before/after class to assist students with any questions

Reading
Monday through Friday there will be a few pages of assigned reading. Reading assignments are in the syllabus. During your reading, it is a good idea to define your vocabulary words as you come across them. At the end of each reading you will answer the short On Your Own Questions.

Vocabulary
I recommend writing out the definitions to all bold faced vocabulary words as you come across them in your reading. I highly recommend the use of 3x5 cards for writing vocabulary words and definitions, making a collection of flash cards that are easy to review on the go! Vocabulary cards are due as part of the Study Guide assignment on the day of the test.
On Your Own Questions (OYO):
At the end of each daily reading assignment are two or three short questions that quickly review what you just learned. As you come to the end of your reading, briefly answer the On Your Own Questions. Be prepared to discuss your responses every Wednesday at the beginning of class. OYO questions are to be turned in for grading on the day of the test.

Study Guides
The end of each chapter you will find a set of questions which reviews the entire chapter. The study guide is an EXCELLENT review for the test. We will review the answers together in class to the study guides prior to each test. Study Guides (including vocabulary definitions) are due on the day of the test.

Tests
Tests will be held in class at the end of each Module and take about 30 minutes to complete. Most tests will be held every other Wednesday morning. Test dates can be found in the syllabus. The study guide at the end of each chapter is an excellent guide that will prepare you for each module test. Taking notes in class will also help you keep track of the information that the test will emphasize. I include a mix of Apologia test questions and my own questions on each module test. Most questions are short answer, though the more details you provide in your answer will show me your level of knowledge on the subject. Some questions will include multiple choice, true/false, labeling diagrams, and matching.

Lab Reports
A lab report detailing the equipment needed, procedures, and learning objectives and observations will be completed for each lab exercise we complete. Written lab reports are due every Monday following the lab experiments. I will provide a lab write up worksheet for students to fill out each week. I will also provide information on how and why it is important to fill out weekly lab reports. A three ring notebook will be required to establish a lab notebook.

Projects
We will have a couple of projects students will complete at home. I will provide more information and instructions as those projects come up.

Late Assignments
Late assignments will be accepted, however 10% grade deduction will be given for assignments turned in late. Late assignments can be emailed to me. I will provide students with ONE free late assignment pass which may be turned in with an late assignment with no penalties.
Illness
Please email me if you think you will not be attending class due to illness. We are on a tight schedule and I will do my best to work with a student to keep them "up to speed" while sick.

I will not deduct 10% from assignments turned in late due to illness. Labs that are missed due to illness can be made up by appointment. I will make available times for students to make up missed labs, usually following regular class hours is the classroom is available.

Inclement weather
CHFM follows the guidelines put in place for CCA in times of inclement weather. Since our classes meet early, check to see if CCA is in session. If classes are cancelled for CCA, CHFM will cancel as well.

Grading
Grading for Apologia Biology is weighted. The emphasis is on test grades and lab reports. However the OYO questions and Study Guides are the at home learning that provide the foundation of information for successful tests.

65% - tests
20% - Lab Reports
15% - On Your Own questions, Study Guides & Projects

Grading Scale
90 - 100 = A
80 – 89 = B
70 – 79 = C
60 – 69 = D
0 – 59 = F

Please feel free to contact me with ANY questions. I can be reached at home or on my cell before 9 p.m. I will also keep in contact regularly via email!

Jennifer Allen
Home: 778-2076
Cell: 250-4167
Email: drkevjenallen@gmail.com

Lots of details, but LOTS of fun as well. I am looking forward to an awesome semester!

Sincerely,
Jennifer Allen