

6th Grade Life Science Course Syllabus

Mr. Hassan Wilson

Friends Seminary

Important Contacts and Resources

- Mr. Wilson's Email Address: hwilson@friendsseminary.org
- Course Website: <http://moodle.friendsseminary.org/moodle2/>
- Course Updates on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FS6thgradesci>
- Course Blog: <http://fs6thgradelifescience.blogspot.com/>
- Course Science Fair Wiki: <https://fs6thgradesciencefair.pbwiki.com>

Introduction

Welcome sixth graders to life science. This year we should learn a lot about living things and science, while having fun at the same time. We will read, write, discuss, design and execute experiments, and give presentations. It is important that you complete your assignments, study hard and respect other members of the classroom. I look forward to a great year.

*After you sign and have a parent or guardian sign, make sure you place this handout in the appropriate place in your binder. Do not cut the bottom of this document.

Expectations

I expect you to:

- ❖ respect members of the classroom as well as the physical space.
- ❖ follow all school rules.
- ❖ complete all assignments thoroughly. Assignments must be typed or neatly written. Please note that many assignments will be web-based including the creation of wiki web pages displaying your science fair experiments, responding to blogs posts or uploading experimental data to moodle--just to name a few.
- ❖ be on time and prepared for learning. You must bring a pen, pencil, binder and journal.
- ❖ complete your own work. You must acknowledge any help received on an assignment. If you worked/talked to no one, please indicate this by writing "none."

- ❖ voluntarily participate in discussions, lab exercises and activities. Participation is a significant part of this course because there is value in learning from your peers. Be aware that I will expect for all students to participate and give presentations.
- ❖ check the course's moodle website and twitter site daily because important announcements and changes to assignments will be communicated via the Internet. If you are absent, you can find out what you missed on moodle and twitter.

Supplies

- ✓ Binder & magenta folder: science notes, homework and handouts should be dated and placed in order into the Biology section of a 3-ring binder. The magenta folder for science can be bought at the school store.
- ✓ Pen and pencil: it is a good idea to bring more than one pen and pencil to class. You may use white out only if it is not a disruption to class.
- ✓ Journal: at times during class (i.e., warm up question) and for homework, you will complete journal entries. These entries should be titled, dated and handwritten into a standard-sized separate composition notebook or spiral notebook. Since the journal will be used often, it is a good idea to leave it in your book bag – allowing for use at home and in class. The journal should only be used for science.

Skills developed

- Generate hypotheses and predictions
- Design & execute controlled experiments
- Collect data & record observations
- Create data tables & scaled graphs
- Interpret data & draw conclusions
- Evaluate experiment designs
- Evaluate evidence and make arguments
- Pose questions
- Write detailed, organized and thoughtful lab reports
- Use microscopes
- Research & take notes
- Create & deliver presentations

- Use online resources like twitter, blog, social bookmark, wiki and moodle sites

Course Outline

Course Units	Content
The Nature of Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scope of science• “Scientific method”• Experimental design• Organization & display of data
The Nature of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Characteristics of life• Requirements/ needs of life• Microscopy• Science Fair
Cellular Biology & Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microscopic life• Cells & organelles• Classification & Identification• Photosynthesis
Ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecosystems & biomes• Adaptations• Feeding relationships• Symbiosis
Human Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of chemical compounds• Removal & introduction of organisms• Habitat destruction• Biodiversity• Human population growth

Typical Assessments

- Lab reports
- Case Study Papers
- Tests/Quizzes
- Worksheets
- Blog Comments
- Wiki Pages

DO NOT CUT

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Please sign below to indicate that you have read and understood the above mentioned course requirements.

Student (print)

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian (print)

Signature

Date