**Introduction to Life Science Mr. Oles**

**Team 7 White Phone: 432-8691 Ext. 1344**

**2021-2022 Email: coles@northernyork.org**

Welcome to seventh grade and Introduction to Life Science. For us to have the best year possible, please remember the Three R’s:

1. Respect yourself - do your absolute best in everything you do.
2. Respect others - Allow others to express their opinions.
3. Responsibility for your actions - You control your own destiny.

If everyone follows each of these items, I guarantee we will have a great year! I want you to succeed!

The general course of topics we will follow this year is as follows:

Introduction to Life Science and the Scientific Method

 Ecology

 Cells and Heredity

 Life Systems as an introduction to the three Domains and five Kingdoms, including:

 Kingdom Bacteria & Archeae

 Kingdom Protista

 Kingdom Fungi

 Kingdom Plantae

 Kingdom Animalia

Throughout the year, we will also be discussing many issues that affect our environment.

**Class Materials \*\*\*\*\*Very Important\*\*\*\*\***

***In addition to your Agenda, you are expected to have your science binder and writing utensil for each and every class.*** Organization is one of the keys to being successful in middle school! Folders require you to dig to find worksheets and study guides. I have three-hole punches set out around my classroom. You’ll be surprised at how much easier it is to stay organized when notes, worksheets, and study guides are in chronological order in your notebook. If you do misplace something, copies of most worksheets and study guides will be on Schoology for you to print out. Textbooks will remain in my classroom. Text excerpts used in class will also be posted in PDF format in Schoology.

**Grading Policy**:

**Homework**

I assign homework so that you may practice a skill or gain background knowledge for an upcoming topic or concept. If you choose to not complete an assignment, you will most likely be behind the rest of the class. I may check homework by giving a quiz the day after it is assigned. Not every quiz will be entered into my gradebook, however. For you to succeed, you must keep up with your work and try to complete all assignments, on time. I do not assign “busy work” and therefore consider each assignment important.

My homework will be posted on the Homework Board in my classroom and on Schoology.

**Labs and Projects**

Laboratory activities and individual projects will be required throughout the year to help reinforce important concepts covered in class; grade weighting will vary.

**Tests and Quizzes**

Many chapters will conclude with a chapter test or project, usually worth between 20 and 50 points. Quizzes will be administered throughout as well, each worth between 5 and 20 points. Not every quiz will be entered into my gradebook; some may be dropped. I have been known to give the same quiz several times as a learning aid. One or more units will be assessed orally with the student explaining to me what they have learned.

**Make-up Work**

If you are absent for any reason, **it is your responsibility** to contact me to get the assignment and to show it to me at completion (if we are in class). Email me if you are out or check Schoology. Most worksheets will be posted on Schoology. When a student is absent for an assignment, full credit may be earned when the work is completed within the middle school guideline for absence. An assignment that is 1 day late is given a maximum of 80%. An assignment that is 2 to 3 days late is given a maximum of 50%. Assignments 4 or more days late will receive a zero. I always have extra copies of handouts in class. If you need anther copy, just ask.

**Help and Make up Work Availability**

I am available in the mornings, during Team Time, during CST, and after school most days for help and for you to make up work such as tests and quizzes. If there is time before class starts, I can give you the assignments then; however, please do not interrupt after class has begun.

**General Procedures**

**Bathroom** Use between classes when possible. During a lull in the action, ask for permission to go. If permitted, fill out the back of your agenda. Please do not interrupt class to ask to go.

**Pencil Sharpener/Tissues** Don’t ask permission; quickly and quietly take care of issue.

**Tardy to Class** When class begins, my door will lock. If late without a pass, the student will receive an infraction.

**Nurse/Guidance** Student must have a pass to visit either, unless, of course, the student becomes violently ill during class.

**Trash** Throw trash away at the end of class on your way out the door only. My waste basket is not a hoop, nor is my room a basketball court.

**Assignment Headings** Every single assignment you turn in will have your name, period, date, and assignment name in the top right-hand corner. Un-named assignments will go in the “Bin of Shame” for you to check if you get a zero. Exceptions will be made for charts and graphs - if you’re not sure ask.

**Disagreement with Teacher** If you have a disagreement with grading, material, or teacher actions, you should speak with me immediately after class. Many issues can be resolved quickly; I’m a reasonable person, just talk to me.