**Rotolo Middle School Course Syllabus**

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| **Course Name: 7th grade Life Science** | **Department Teachers:** Barbara Buckley, Morgan Connell,  Tammi Lydick, Amy Matthews |
| **Course Description:** 7th grade science emphasizes cycles and systems in the life sciences. The year begins with field experiences to two Illinois ecosystems, the river and the prairie, exploring resources, environments, biodiversity, adaptations and interactions. Students then go on to study life on Earth and how it continually changes based on Earth’s changing environments. Basic biological principles and practices are then explored and students begin the study of cells, genetics, and life cycles. Science skills that are emphasized throughout this curriculum include lab safety, measurement, technology use, observation, communication and scientific research. Skills are worked on in the following eight practices: asking questions and defining problems, developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, using math and computational thinking, constructing explanations and designing solutions, engaging in argument from evidence and obtaining, evaluating and communicating information. | |
| **Teacher Contact Info:**   * **Email** [**tammi.lydick@bps101.net**](mailto:tammi.lydick@bps101.net) * **Phone (630)937-8700** | **Communication Links:**   * **Website** [**http://lydick.weebly.com**](http://lydick.weebly.com) * **Google Classroom: Check daily for assignments** * **PowerSchool: Check regularly for missing work** |
| **Required Materials:** Binder or folder, loose leaf paper, pouch with supplies, agenda, Chromebook with charger and earbuds | |
| **Resources:** Science World Magazine and various web based resources | |
| **Essential Learnings/Concepts:**   * Ecology (River and Prairie) * Evolution, Natural Selection and Classification * Microscopes * Cell Structure and Function * Heredity and Genetics | **Grading/Assessments:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Grade Calculation:** | **Homework/in class practice- 10%**  **All other coursework (tests, projects and labs)- 90%** | | **BPS Homework Policy:** | 6:290 policy.bps101.net | | **BPS Grading Policy:** | 6:280 policy.bps101.net |   **Homework:**  The purpose of homework is to give students an opportunity to reinforce new learning. If assigned practice is not completed on time, the assignment will be flagged as “missing” and will be given a “0” until completed. Students are encouraged to submit late work for their own benefit up until the next test or project. Upon completion of any late/missing work, students can earn up to 90% of the original points assigned.  **Make-up Policy:**  Work that was assigned before you were absent should be ***ready to be*** turned in upon arrival back to school. You will be given one day per day you were absent to make up any work that was assigned while you were absent. It is the student’s responsibility to check on any missed work and to make-up all learning and assignments on time. |
| **Student Expectations for this Course: (BARK** [**Chart**](https://docs.google.com/a/bps101.net/document/d/1qKt-_i_NElozXEZVOvGSGLT67gFId-VWtCl7kFPYtzc/edit?usp=sharing) **for classroom expectations.**  [**BARK chart**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14Mmy5ovTxkmuj2yMjXgzndZdGRpKJnBfIkf5dROd9HE/edit) **for technology expectations.)** | **Extra Learning & Help Opportunities:** Extra help available before and  after school by appointment, and during X-time as needed. |
| **Teacher Expectations for this Course:**  In keeping with the BARK Program to develop character, the following ethics are expected:  ● Caring‐ giving 100% in work quality and class involvement  ● Responsibility‐ coming to class with required materials, making up missed work promptly, and completing daily assignments on time.  ● Trustworthiness‐ creating original work  ● Respect‐ polite speech and manners towards self and others  ● Fairness‐ awareness that what is fair is not always the same  for all students  ● Citizenship‐ contributing to class discussions and working in groups. | **Remediation Statement:**   * Retakes are allowed for tests and quizzes if the grade is below a 70%. In order to be eligible for a retake, students must first turn in any missing work from the unit. Students will need to complete a “[**Request to Retest**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vSoNzNdKIPg5Q9oL2zzT6L9TCQ50yo505msxvWtwTGM/edit#)” form, have it signed by a parent/guardian, and turn it in before retaking the new assessment. |