Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Life Science
(SC 4116)
One year
Grade 7

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Life Science is a laboratory and activity-centered program that provides students with a broad foundation in the biological sciences. Topics range from cells, plants and animals to heredity and career opportunities. Laboratory investigations and activities are the primary means for developing problem-solving skills and for understanding scientific concepts and principles. Students will develop inquiry and problem-solving skills through scientific investigation. Research and decision-making skills are further developed through the investigation of local or national issues and concerns that result from the interaction of science, technology and society.

COURSE GOALS
• Develop a foundation of concepts and principles in the life sciences
• Develop problem-solving and decision-making skills through experimentation, research and discussion
• Develop an awareness of the interdisciplinary nature of science and its relevance to society
• Develop basic communication skills
• Explore the application of scientific principles in careers and in other areas of interest
• Provide reading and study skills

PREREQUISITE
Sixth grade science

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE
Physical Science 8

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of all core objectives through laboratory investigations, issue investigations, projects and oral and/or written tests, quizzes and reports
• Participate in the laboratory experiences, adhering to all safety procedures
• Prepare written reports for laboratory activities
• Investigate career opportunities and areas of interest in the life sciences
The Instructional Objectives that Comprise the Grade 7 Life Science Course are Summarized as Follows from the Curriculum:

- Demonstrate an understanding of scientific reasoning, logic and the nature of science by planning and conducting investigations.
- Investigate and understand that all living things are composed of cells.
- Investigate and understand that living things show patterns of cellular organization.
- Investigate and understand how organisms can be classified.
- Investigate and understand the basic physical and chemical processes of photosynthesis and its importance to plant and animal life.
- Investigate and understand that organisms within an ecosystem are dependent on one another and on nonliving components of the environment.
- Investigate and understand that interactions exist among members of a population.
- Investigate and understand how organisms adapt to biotic and abiotic factors in an ecosystem.
- Investigate and understand that ecosystems, communities, populations and organisms are dynamic, change over time and respond to daily, seasonal and long-term changes in their environment.
- Investigate and understand the relationships between ecosystem dynamics and human activity.
- Investigate and understand that organisms reproduce and transmit genetic information to new generations.
- Investigate and understand that populations of organisms change over time.
Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation/gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, disability, marital status, age, genetic information or veteran status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and regulations (including, but not limited to, Policies 2-33, 4-4, 4-6, 4-43, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 4-4.1, 4-4.2, 4-6.1, 4-43.1, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials and extracurricular activities.

To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student’s school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at Amanda.Malbon@VBSchools.com

vbschools.com
your virtual link to Hampton Roads’ largest school system

No part of this publication may be produced or shared in any form without giving specific credit to Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

(Revised August 2017)