

Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) Biology

2017 Summer Assignment

Pre-AP Biology is designed to challenge students and prepare them for a successful AP Biology experience as well as the State of Texas Biology End-of- Course Exam (EOC).

In order to be successful (and, by our standards, success is not measured by the course grade on your high school transcript, but by your ability to obtain an Excellent on the Biology EOC and your level of preparedness for college-level biology courses), you will have to commit yourself to a regular schedule of study time, readings, research, and the pursuit of higher understanding of the biological sciences.

In order to demonstrate your level of commitment to Pre-AP Biology, you will first need to complete a series of summer assignments. Because most of you are unfamiliar with our teaching practices, please know that we avoid assigning “busy work” at all costs, and this practice begins with this summer assignment. You should consider it meaningful and worthy of your time if you wish to see success in Pre-AP Biology this school year.

In addition, we spend a great deal of time in the lab applying biological principles learned. Safety is of the utmost importance. A large portion of this assignment is dedicated to reviewing safety and lab equipment. You will be unable to participate in any lab experiences until it is complete and accurate. You will be given alternative learning experiences that do not require lab participation until accurate completion is shown.

Please initial next to each assignment as it is completed. While each portion of this assignment may not be graded individually for accuracy, your first grade in the course will come from your adequate completion of this summer assignment. **Be prepared to turn this paper in on the first day of the 2017-2018 school year along with all portions of the assignment.**

Part 1

_____ Create a Pre-AP Biology Notebook using a composition notebook. This should be a new composition notebook with no writing and contain at least 100 pages. It can be any color you choose. Remember this is **not a spiral!** Once you have your notebook, use the instructions on the Word document titled Pre AP Summer Assignment Journal Set Up to complete the journal set up. Here is a brief description of each section:

- _____ Cover page: Students will need to design a cover page to their journal that includes their name. This cover page needs to reflect the student and the subject of biology. The cover needs to be colorful and include pictures, which can be drawn, photos, or clippings from magazines.
- _____ Introduction: Students will introduce themselves to their teacher by following the instructions on the All About Me handout. This should be glued on the second page of your journal. (Glue on the back of the first page, we will use both fronts and backs in our journal).
- _____ Learning style inventory. Students will complete a learning style inventory to better understand their way of learning and also to assist the teacher in meeting their needs.
- _____ TEKS summary. Students will access and print a summary of the TEKS that they are responsible for learning this year.
- _____ Policies and procedures. Follow the set up instructions.
- _____ Root Words: Most of the vocabulary in biology is based in Latin, so students will need to study prefixes and suffixes and explain what their words mean through definitions.
- _____ Lab Equipment. Students will familiarize themselves with various lab equipment that we will use throughout the year. Follow the journal set up instructions.
- _____ Safety rules. Students will watch a short video clip and read lab scenarios to identify incorrect and correct safety procedures. Title pages 15-17 “Safety Rules” Complete the video clip below and the 3 worksheets in the journal set up instructions.
- _____ Safety symbols. Students will review safety symbols. Complete the worksheet in the journal set up instructions.

Part 2

- _____ Science Safety. Read through the Flinn Science Safety Contract. Sign the contract. You will turn in both science safety forms on the first day of school.
- _____ Watch the video by scanning the QR code. While watching the video fill in the worksheet titled "Zombie College-the 5 Rules of Lab Safety." This worksheet is found in your journal set up instructions.



- _____ Use the following article to label the safety symbols and answer the questions found in your journal set up instructions. Access the article by typing in the following URL code or scanning the QR code.
http://www.ccohs.ca/teach_tools/chem_hazards/symbols.html



Part 3

- Complete the survey regarding your incoming opinions regarding Pre AP biology.
 - To access the survey use the QR code below. Or type in the following URL code:
<https://goo.gl/forms/ILgDQvDnjKsvgd2n1>
 - The survey is anonymous.
 - All we receive is a summary of results.
 - It requests your email so that you receive credit, but does not give individual responses per email address.

Please use your school google email.



We truly hope you develop a passion for biology, as we did, through the mental challenges that lie ahead on your journey to earning credit in college-level biology and look forward to meeting you in August.

Sincerely,
Aledo Biology Staff