

## Pre-AP Biology Summer Assignment 2010



PreAP Biology students,

In order to receive credit for preAP biology, you must complete a summer assignment that the regular biology students do not have to do. You will be required to participate in the dissection, complete a novel study, and submit the summer assignment all as part of the preAP biology course.

In order to complete the summer assignment, you are to locate, identify, and observe an organism that lives in your backyard. The *preference* is that the organisms not be domesticated. You are to keep a journal of the activities, development, and growth of the organism. The observations are to be recorded in a bound laboratory notebook. Number the right hand pages of your notebook, and write only on the right hand side. Handwrite in pen and white out is NOT permitted. Additional specifications for the journal are included on the data table on the following page.

The summer assignment will count as a test grade in the first six weeks grading period and will be due the first week of school. In the preAP biology course, the major grades are worth 70% of your grade, so it is very important that this project be complete, submitted on time, and be of high quality. You will ONLY submit your journal during the first week of school. It is not a requirement to submit a powerpoint or display board in addition to your journal.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Keeley Lowery via email at [loweryk@cisdmail.com](mailto:loweryk@cisdmail.com). Mrs. Lowery can answer any questions that you have regarding the expectations of preAP biology and the summer assignment. Mrs. Lowery will be checking her email weekly during the summer, so do not stress if you do not hear back immediately from her.

preAP Biology teachers

Due Date : During the 1<sup>st</sup> week of school  
\*all summer assignments are individual projects

## Pre-AP Summer Assignment

Page #	Description	Point Value
<b>1-2</b>	<b>Table of Contents</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Identification of organism</b> Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species	5
<b>3</b>	<b>Species</b> – Introduced or Native Is this organism an introduced species or is it native to this area in Texas? If it is an introduced species, where is it's native home and does it have the potential to become an invasive species?	5
<b>4</b>	<b>Habitat description</b> Describe the organism's habitat <b>in detail</b> . What does it live in, on, or around? Describe the other organisms living in its community.	5
<b>5</b>	<b>Drawings of organism</b> Color and label the drawing.	5
<b>6</b>	<b>Food Web</b> Design a food web that includes your organism. What does it eat and what eats it? Then continue the food web out to at least 8 organisms. The web should also have the sun as the major source of energy.	10
	<b>Journal entries</b> There must be at least 15 entries <b>spread over the summer</b> . These will <i>include your data and detailed observations</i> . You <b>cannot</b> have 15 entries within the last 2 ½ weeks of summer.	20
	<b>Data Table</b> Gather <u>MEASUREABLE</u> data on your organism. Create a data table to summarize all of the data that you collected over the summer. Some examples of measureable data include height of organism, number of leaves, or number of organisms.	10
	<b>Photographs</b> There are to be a minimum of 10 photographs of your <b>actual organism</b> placed in your journal. These are <u>not</u> to be images from the internet of an organism like yours. The photos should be taken at different points over the summer. Insert the photos alongside the corresponding journal entry and attach the photo to the left hand side of the page.	10
	<b>Graph of DATA</b> Use the data that you have collected to create at least one graph. Be sure to include titles and subtitles.	20
	<b>Enhancements – You must complete any two.</b>	10
	<b>Flyer</b> - Include a 1 page flyer when you turn in your project. The flyer should include a photo and name of your organism as well as a brief description of your observations.	
	<b>Interview</b> - Interview an <u>expert</u> on the organism that you are observing. This should not be a parent or neighbor. Your interview can be online via email.	
	<b>Volunteer hours</b> - Volunteer at a local nature center, garden, or park.	
	<b>Video</b> - Short video of your organism in action.	
	<b>Essay</b> – Two page, handwritten essay about your organism. It should be placed into your laboratory notebook.	
	<b>Professional Photo</b> – Select one of your photos that you would consider of <b>professional</b> quality. Print the photo as an 8 ½ x 11. Framing is completely optional.	

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