

# Pre-AP GT Biology

## Summer Assignment 2010



Pre-AP **GT** Biology students,

In order to receive credit for Pre-AP GT biology, you must complete a summer assignment that is not required in the regular biology course. You will also be required to participate in the dissection, complete a novel study, and present at a product fair as part of the preAP GT biology course.

In order to complete the summer assignment, you are to locate, identify, and observe two different organisms that live in your backyard. The *preference* is that the organisms not be domesticated. The organism that you select will be observed for the entire school year, so cautiously select an organism that is of interest to you.

Over the summer, you are to keep a journal of the activities, development, and changes in the two organisms. 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.

During the first week of school, you will only submit your journal which will count as a test grade. Throughout the school year, you will develop a presentation to accompany the data that you collected during the summer and additional research that you will complete throughout the school year. The format of the presentation will be discussed in class so please do not worry about working on this part of the project during the summer. In the spring, your final project will be presented at a product fair for faculty, administrators, parents, and community members of Carroll High School.

If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me via email at [loweryk@cisdmail.com](mailto:loweryk@cisdmail.com) or keeley\_lowery@yahoo.com. Questions can be answered regarding the expectations of preAP GT biology as well as the summer assignment. I will be checking my email weekly during the summer, so do not stress if you do not hear back immediately.

Mrs. Lowery

## Pre- AP GT Summer Assignment

Page #	Description	Point Value
<b>1-2</b>	<b>Table of Contents</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Identification of organisms</b> Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species	5
<b>3</b>	<b>Species</b> – Introduced or Native Are the organisms 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>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.	15
	<b>Data Table</b> Gather <u>MEASUREABLE</u> data on your organisms. 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.	20
	<b>Graph of DATA</b> Use the data that you have collected to create at least one graph comparing the two organisms. Be sure to include titles and subtitles.	20
	<b>Venn Diagram</b> Create a Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting at least five characteristics of your organisms.	5
	<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 organisms 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.	
	<b>Your choice</b> - Any other idea that is preapproved by Mrs. Lowery. Print out approval email.	

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