

Pre-AP Biology

Summer
Summer

Assignment
Assignment



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Due Date : During the 1st 2 weeks of school
*all summer assignments are individual projects

May 2009

PreAP biology students,

In order to receive credit for preAP biology, you must complete several assignments 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. You have the option of selecting one of the two summer assignments discussed in this document. The assignment that you select will be due within the first two weeks of school. Each assignment is of equal value and counts as a test grade in the first six weeks grading period. In preAP, the test 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.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Keeley Lowery via email at loweryk@cisdmail.com. Mrs. Lowery can answer any questions that you have regarding the expectations of preAP biology and the summer assignments. 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



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Science Fair Project – Option 1

(choose **1** of the **2** project options available)

You may complete a scientific investigation for entry in the science fair as your summer assignment. If you choose to complete a science fair project, it will be included in the CHS school science fair competition. If selected as a finalist for CHS, it could *potentially* go on to compete at the regional, state, and national level. For this reason, your project idea must be pre-approved. Please email project ideas by July 1, 2009 to Mrs. Lowery, loweryk@cisdmail.com.

The following is a list of obligations involved with completing a Science Fair Project:

Requirements (Summer)	Points
Three page research paper on approved topic	40
Display board and journal of experiment (due prior to school fair)	30
Rough draft of the project Approval Forms completed on forms at the link BELOW (including): Purpose or Question Hypothesis Materials Procedure Safety Procedures and Equipment Location of Experiment Supervising Person	20
Project approval from Mrs. Lowery (during summer)	10
Test Grade Total	

The science fair project will need to be displayed on a board when it is time for entry in the science fair. Below is a link which includes detail of all the necessary requirements, paperwork, etc. for submission of a science fair project.

http://hunstem.uhd.edu/SEFH/approval_main.htm

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Independent Investigation – Option 2

You are to locate and identify an organism that lives in your backyard. Be creative, do not limit yourself to just the plants!! Keep a journal of the activity, development, and changes of your organisms. This will be worth a **test grade** your first week back to school.

Page #	Description	Point Value
1-2	Table of Contents	
3	Identification of organism Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species	5
3	Species – 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
4	Habitat description Describe the organism's habitat in detail . What does it live in, on, or around? Describe the other organisms living in its community.	5
5	Drawings of organism Label the drawing.	5
6	Food Web 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 4 organisms.	10
	Graph of DATA Gather MEASUREABLE data on your organism. This is VERY open ended. If you are researching ants, maybe you could keep track of the location of the ant piles. If you are observing a butterfly bush in your yard, keep track of its height, number of leaves, number or type of insects visiting it. Use the data that you have collected to create at least one graph.	20
	Journal entries There must be at least 15 entries spread over the summer. These will include your data and any other observations that you may have. You cannot have 15 entries within the last 2 ½ weeks of summer. Please keep your entries in a bound lab journal. Number the right hand pages of your notebook, and write only on the right hand side.	15
	Photographs There are to be 10 photographs of your actual organism placed in your journal. These are not to be images from the internet of an organism like yours. They do not need to be all together. You can spread them throughout your journal entries.	20
	Creativity	5
	Flyer Include a 1 page flyer when you turn in your project during the 1 st 2 weeks of school that briefly describes the research that you completed.	10
	Interview (extra credit) 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.	5
	Volunteer hours (extra credit) Volunteer at a local nature center, garden, or park.	

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