

# How to Succeed in Mrs. Holes Biology Class

**Science is often the explanation that helps us better understand the world.**

**Science is fun as long as you approach it with an open mind and a positive attitude.**

**Science is what you make of it!**

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## Goals:

You will develop an understanding of biology and will be able to relate the scientific knowledge you gain in class to your everyday life. You will sharpen your critical thinking and analysis skills and learn how to think like a scientist. The scientific knowledge you gain in class will ultimately help you to understand the world around you. And last but not least, you will learn organizational & life skills.

## Course Objectives:

You will learn the fundamentals of biology. Biology is the study of life! We will investigate the characteristics of life, key elements of cells, cell structure and function, eukaryotic and prokaryotic organisms and their characteristics, microscopy, cellular structure and processes, cellular energy and photosynthesis, cellular respiration, cell reproduction, cancer, stem cells and differentiation, general genetics and human genetics, ecology, evolution, and many more concepts of biology. You will build your critical thinking and analysis skills. You will also learn to productively work in a group and learn to read and analyze scientific documents.

## Class Procedures:

If you are tardy, and it is unexcused twice in one grading period, you will be assigned a detention. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up all missed work for this class. You should ask a friend what you missed, and then get any handouts from the handouts bin. See me before or after school or class to ask any questions about what you missed. If your absence is excused, you will be allowed to make up missed work. You have one day per day absent to complete missed assignments. Students will be allowed up to 6 hall passes/late assignments per quarter. You must ask for permission, show your pass card, sign the hall pass log, and carry the hall pass.

## Grading Policy, Assignments, and Assessments:

Completing homework is very important for your learning progression. You are responsible to turn in assignments on time. Your pass card can be used to turn in late assignments up to 6 times per quarter. Always ask questions about any material you don't understand. There are no stupid questions! Always study for quizzes and tests. I expect that you try your best on every assignment and assessment.

Grades will be accumulated from homework, quizzes, tests, labs, projects, and notebook quizzes. Homework will be checked randomly for accuracy and/or completion credit. During each learning unit, there will be one test, at least one quiz, and multiple homework assignments. Projects and labs will vary in frequency depending on the unit.

Tests & Quizzes	50%
Labs & Projects	30%
Homework	10%
Participation	10%

## Reminders & Class Website:

The website can be found by through the High School website. The direct address for our class website is <http://mrsholes.weebly.com>

To sign up for class reminders, text 81010 with the message for your class period below.

period	message
5 <sup>th</sup>	@biology05
7 <sup>th</sup>	@biology70
8 <sup>th</sup>	@biology08

### **Classroom Expectations & Strategies for Success:**

1. Be Prompt. Show up to class on time, and be in your seat when the tardy bell rings.
2. Be Productive. You should always work hard and do your best. Bring a positive attitude to class!
3. Be Responsible. You should have all appropriate materials and supplies for every class. You will not be allowed to go to your locker at the beginning of class.
4. Be Respectful. Remember the golden rule. Treat others the way you would want to be treated. Respect others and the property of others. No put downs!
5. Follow the rules on your lab safety contract.
6. Follow all rules in the student handbook.

### **Positive Rewards:**

I will contact your parents if you consistently have good behavior. You may also receive, candy, stickers, or a special class reward if you always implement the strategies for success.

### **Disciplinary Actions:**

First offense: Verbal warning

Second offense: Detention and call or email home

Third offense: Referral to an administrator and call or email home

Fourth offense: Referral to an administrator and or removal from class

\*Steps may be skipped for severe disruptions, safety hazards, or any other extreme incidents.

**\*\*Breaking any lab rule may result in a zero for the lab or in severe cases, dismissal from all labs for the grading period. You will have to complete an alternate assignment when everyone else is doing a fun lab.**

### **Extra Help:**

If you ever have any questions, please come see us before or after class and/or school. We are also more than happy to arrange a meeting time to answer your questions, provide help to understand an assignment, or help you study for a test, etc. Ask early, and do not get behind. You can email us any time at jholes@tvsd.us.

### **Supply List:**

3 ring binder, filler paper, colored pencils, graph paper

**“The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand.” -Frank Herbert**

I have read how to succeed in Mrs. Holes & Ms. Clements biology class and have reviewed the student lab safety contract, and agree to follow them at all times during lab activities.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

I am *the parent/guardian of*\_\_\_\_\_. I have read all the classroom and lab rules. I have also discussed the importance of safety in the lab with my child. I know they are responsible for following all safety rules and procedures to ensure a safe and fun lab environment for everyone.

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name\_\_\_\_\_