Welcome to AP Biology! AP Biology is a course designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory biology course. Students entering AP Biology have taken full-year courses in introductory biology and chemistry. The intent of the course is to expose students to higher-level biological principles, concepts, and skills and allow them the opportunity to apply their knowledge to real-life applications. By utilizing the big idea statements, enduring understandings, and science practices to guide biology instruction, it is the goal that students develop an appreciation for the study of life.

**PREREQUISITES:** Student should earn an A or better in Chemistry or a B or better in Honors Chemistry or science teacher recommendation.

AP® Biology Big Ideas

**Big Idea 1:** The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.
**Big Idea 2:** Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.
**Big Idea 3:** Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes.
**Big Idea 4:** Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

**Directions and links for the main summer assignment.**

For all links below go through each click and learn/interactive lab using the student worksheets. Read each question carefully and be sure to answer all parts of the questions.

**Assignment #1:** Click & Learn activities from Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Click & Learn #1 – Sorting Finch Species:

https://www.hhmi.org/biointeractive/sorting-finchespecies

Click & Learn #2 – Great Transitions Interactive:

https://www.hhmi.org/biointeractive/great-transitions-interactive

Click & Learn #3 – Human and Chimp Skelton Evolution Website:

Click & Learn #4 – Using the Scientific Process to Study Human Evolution Website:


Assignment #2: Virtual Lab activity from Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Virtual Lab #1-Lizard Evolution:

https://www.hhmi.org/biointeractive/lizard-evolution-virtual-lab

DUE DATE: First Day of School

This summer assignment will give you a taste of what AP Biology is all about. We will be covering a lot of material in many different ways. You will be taking more personal responsibility for your learning. The summer is a great time to practice being the type of student you want to be during the school year. The best advice I can give you is DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE to get your work done. Rushed work can be sloppy and full of mistakes. Remember, the summer work will provide me a first impression of your work ethic. Make it a good one. It’s a long way to the exam in May and we will be working hard in AP but we will also have a lot of fun and I guarantee you’ll be proud of what you accomplish.

I hope you all enjoy the summer and if you have any questions please contact me via email (ewozadlo@scusd.net)