THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF ASUNCION

1st QUARTER SYLLABUS

TITLE OF COURSE:	GRADE LEVEL/DURATION OF COURSE:	TEACHER NAME & E-MAIL:
7th Grade Life Science	7th Grade/ Full Year	Kristin Page-Botelho kpage@asa.edu.py

STANDARDS:

Use basic scientific process skills to observe, measure, use numbers, classify, question, infer, hypothesize, and communicate.

Use integrated scientific process skills to predict, design experiments, control variables, interpret data, define operations, and formulate models.

Understand the characteristics, structure, and functions of organisms.

Understand the diversity of living things and the characteristics of the 6 kingdoms of life.

Classify organisms into the currently recognized kingdoms according to characteristics that they share. Be familiar with organisms from each kingdom.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

How do scientists organize our knowledge of the universe?

How do scientists use evidence, models, and explanations to communicate about discoveries?

How do scientists measure change?

What forces cause change?

What is the relationship between structure and function in objects, organisms, and systems?

How do scientists explore, observe, ask questions, collect data, and find patterns?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Vocabulary

- Taxonomy
- Dichotomous key
- Binomial Nomenclature
- Kingdom
- Phylum
- Class
- Order
- Family
- Genus
- Species
- Prokaryote
- Eukaryote
- Heterotroph
- Autotroph
- Archaebacteria
- Eubacteria
- Protista
- Fungi
- Plantae
- Animalia
- Cell
- Stimulus
- Response
- Sexual reproduction
- Asexual reproduction

Skills

- *Understand that scientific knowledge is subject to change based on new findings and results of scientific observations and experimentation.*
- *Construct and use classification systems based on the structure of organisms.*
- *Identify the characteristics, needs, and chemistry of all living things.*
- *Compare and contrast the similarities and differences between the 6 kingdoms of life.*
- *Understand how scientists classify organisms and be able to use a dichotomous key to identify organisms.*
- *Classify organisms according to kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species.*
- *Apply rules of binomial nomenclature to name an organism by its scientific name.*
- *Describe the 6 characteristics of living things.*
- *Explain why organisms need food, water, air and a place to live.*
- *Distinguish between asexual and sexual reproduction.*

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ASSESSMENTS:

Student Grades will be determined by the following:

35% Tests/Quizzes
20% Labs/Hands-on Activities/Projects
15% Class work
10% Nature Journals
10% Participation
10% Homework

Tests/Quizzes – Students can expect approximately 1 quiz every two weeks and a comprehensive test at the end of each chapter.

Labs/Hands-on Activities/Projects – Students can expect to participate in 1 hands-on activity or lab about every other week as well as several projects throughout the quarter. Students will be provided and instructed about grading rubrics for all projects prior to starting the project.

Class work – Students will complete daily warm-ups or science news responses, which will be collected weekly. Students will also complete a variety of in-class assignments on a regular basis.

Participation – Students can earn 2 participation points per day. If students are participating positively in class, contributing to class discussions, asking thoughtful questions about topics being taught, working cooperatively with classmates during labs and group-work, and not causing disruption to the learning environment they will earn their participation points.

Nature Journals – Students will be given a nature journal assignment approximately every other week. These assignments will incorporate writing, artwork, and reflections on learning. Students will be instructed in class about expectations for each journal entry. Students will also be expected to complete one entry of their choice for every 3 assigned entries. Students will be given a due date and the journals will be collected after every 3rd assigned entry. A grading rubric will be used to grade all journal entries.

Homework – Students will be given a variety of homework assignments throughout the quarter. It is expected that all assignments be completed individually. Instruction for all assignments has occurred before assignments are given and therefore assignments are a way of reinforcing concepts taught in class.

RESOURCES:

Science and Technology: Life Science. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2005.

http://go.hrw.com

***www*.mrspage.com**

TEACHER AVAILABLITLY FOR EXTRA HELP AND MEETING WITH STUDENTS:

I will always be available **Mondays and Thursdays** from **3:30-4:15 p.m**. in room **H-11.**