

Welcome to ZOOLOGY!

Disclosure Document – Mr. Miller

Course Description

In Zoology we will take a tour of the animal kingdom. Zoology A will focus on invertebrates and Zoology B will focus on vertebrates. We will study basic animal anatomy, physiology, evolution and ecology. Students will gain an increasing knowledge of the major groupings of animals, functions of principal animal body systems and animal classification. Students will also gain an appreciation of the significance of animal diversity and improve science and laboratory skills.

Course Information

GOALS: The goal of this class is to learn about animals and enjoy science. Students will be informed of the learning targets for each unit and will personally track their progress towards these milestones.

GRADING: Students will be graded on two categories of work: formative work and summative work.

- Formative Work will count as 60% of the student's grade and will include: Notes, assignments, portfolios, bell-ringers, quizzes, pre-tests, lab reports and other types of assignments designed to teach or reinforce learned concepts.
- Formative work can be amended one time and resubmitted after the initial score. This is to encourage learning and mastery of important concepts.
- Formative work will be graded on completion using the following rubric for scores:
 0. Work not handed in for grading
 1. Minimally done: Work does not express proficiency- needs major revision
 2. Mostly Done: Student is almost proficient- needs minor revision
 3. Well Done: Completed properly and as assigned (Full Points)
 4. Exceptional: Above and beyond the expected standard (Bonus)
- Summative Work will count as 40% of the student's grade and will include: Tests, projects, papers, lab final summaries and other work designed to measure final proficiency.
- Summative work cannot be amended or resubmitted. This means no retakes or re-dos.
- Students will need to complete formative milestones before being allowed to take tests.
- Summative work will be graded on performance with earned points.

GRADING SCALE: Midterm and trimester grades will be issued based on the following scale. Earned points will be added together, then divided by the total points possible to determine a percentage.

A's	100-93%	A	B's	89.9-87%	B+	C's	79.9-77%	C+	D's	69.9-67%	D+	F	59.9% or less
	92.9-90%	A-		86.9-83%	B		76.9-73%	C		66.9-63%	D		
				82.9-80%	B-		72.9-70%	C-		62.9-60%	D-		

STUDENT REWARDS PROGRAM: This class will have a rewards system where students can earn rewards tickets (Zoo Bucks) for good behavior or performance. These tickets will be used to "purchase" good things. More details to follow.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Students will be expected to be accountable for their own success. They will use a sheet to track their personal progress towards learning objectives/goals. This will help students realize when they need to remediate or re-learn a concept before it is too late.

EQUIPMENT: Students need to have a binder/notebook dedicated to zoology. A folder with pockets will be helpful in addition to the notebook. Please bring these materials and writing utensils to class daily.

PORTFOLIO: For each unit, students will assemble a portfolio which will include notes, handouts, drawings, daily observations, bell quizzes etc. Students are required to keep their unit portfolios as part of an end of trimester portfolio and as a resource for the class final.

GROUP WORK: Working in groups is a privilege. Students will be assigned to work in partners and in groups for some assignments. Each student is expected to communicate and contribute to their group.

WORK DEADLINES: All work will have a due date. Late work will be accepted for full credit but this will “cost” the student a Zoo Buck. Late work will only be accepted for 1 week after the initial due date. Remediation of formative work will have a final due date with no extensions.

CLASS ATTENDANCE: Unexcused absences are unacceptable. If a student accumulates 6 unexcused absences, their citizenship will decrease 1 letter. Being late to class is unacceptable. If a student is tardy, they can immediately remediate their tardy by “paying” a Zoo Buck. 6 unremediated tardies will decrease citizenship by 1 letter.

CLASS WEBSITE: **www.behsscience.com** All of the class notes and other helpful links will be posted online. Check it out and use it to help you review.

MAKE-UP WORK: If you do miss class, **it is your responsibility** to find out what was done in class that day. To know what you missed, check the calendar on the class website. All work that is missed during an absence is expected to be completed within the same amount of time as was missed. EX: If you miss 4 days, your work is due 4 days after you return from absence. If you know you will be gone, please pre-arrange your absences to stay caught up with the class.

STUDENTS with ACCOMODATIONS: Students, please come see me before or after school so we can discuss how I can help you succeed and meet your accommodations.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS: You are old enough to know what proper behavior for a classroom is. Please act accordingly. Things to do:

- Be respectful to each of your peers. Be respectful of the teacher and listen at all times
- Come to class prepared to learn and willing to work
- Be responsible by turning in work on time, studying and making up missed assignments
- Clean up your lab station and keep your seating area clean
- Follow BEHS school policies

Please, do not: (these actions will “cost” you a Zoo Buck)

- Bring any food or drink to class (water is ok).
- Intentionally harm or misuse any of the lab equipment/class materials/animals, or horse around during labs
- Inappropriate behavior towards another student or the teacher.
- Use distracting items in class: cell phones, ipods, ipads/kindles, books, other homework etc.

Science can be a challenging subject for many students. A regular study routine, like 10 or 15 minutes daily, is the best method to learn the information. If you are falling behind or are having a hard time understanding the content please come get help before/after school or during Bee Time.

Contact Information

I’m excited to be your teacher for this trimester! Parents, please contact me with questions or to get an update about your student. Students, please use the resources on my website and come see me for additional help.

Email: andrew.miller@besd.net

Work Phone: 435-734-4840 ext 2412

Website: **www.behsscience.com**

----- CUT -----
We have received a copy of the disclosure document for Mr. Miller’s Zoology class. We understand that it is our responsibility to abide by the class rules, policies, and procedures.

(Print student name)

(Student signature)

(Date)

(Parent signature)

(Parent preferred contact method: phone # or email address)

(Date)