

**Biology 2**

**Course Description:** Lecture and Lab course required for graduation that introduces Biology with an emphasis on classification of organisms, evolutionary processes (natural selection) and Ecology. The purpose is to gain an understanding and appreciation of life science, as well as to gain skills in performing experiments and investigations in the biological sciences. Students of Biology will investigate, inquire, and synthesize phenomena through asking questions, defining problems, analyzing, predicting, constructing explanations, etc. They will study diverse concepts and make application to real world ideas with the intent to prepare you for higher education and/or the future job market.

**Attendance:** Students are required to be in school every day. Students are responsible for communicating with their teachers to make up missed learning.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

CLO #1: Learners can explain the course expectations, lab safety and the scientific method.

CLO #2: Learners can explain or show how organisms are classified and how to use cladograms/dichotomous keys with respect to common ancestry.

CLO #3: Learners can explain or show, based on evidence, how natural selection leads to adaptations of populations.

CLO #4: Learners can construct an explanation based on evidence that the process of evolution primarily results from four factors.

CLO #5: Learners can explain or show how complex interactions in an ecosystem maintain consistent numbers but under certain conditions may result in a new ecosystem.

CLO #6: Learners can explain and identify factors that affect carrying capacity of an ecosystem.

CLO #7: Learners can support claims for the cycling of matter and flow of energy among organisms in an ecosystem.

**Course Expectations:** Although not everything is graded, everything is important. In order to demonstrate growth and learning, students will need to:

1. Participate in class activities (take notes, work in a group, complete in-class tasks, ask questions) without distractions (cell phones, ear buds, games, etc.)
2. Use morning time and teacher to seek help outside of class when needed.
3. Complete all assessments within teacher timelines.

## Grading

**Learning (Practice)** includes instructional activities in and outside of class and are not used in grade determination.

**Skyward Assessment (Grades)** may include quizzes, labs, learning checks, tests, speeches, performances, and projects.

### Calculations:

Course Grade	
Semester Grade	95%
Culminating Activity/Project/Exam	5%

Final Grade	
A	100% - 90%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	0% - 59%

### Rapid City Alternative Academy Courses:

- Will determine grades based on student learning and growth.
- Will not include practice and behavior in grade determination.
- Will give all students regardless of absence an opportunity to demonstrate learning.
- Will not include extra credit.

### Instructional Resources:

Textbook: Biology by Miller and Levine

Web Sources: hhmi, Amoeba Sisters, Crash Course: Biology, Bozeman, Kahoot!, Blooket, Canvas, Google Classroom