



Welcome to AP Biology for the 2014-2015 School Year!

In preparation for success in this college level science course, all students enrolled in AP Biology are given a "Summer Packet" to be completed and brought to the very first day of class! The material in this packet includes the following:

- A. A Question Packet over Unit One: Biochemistry. All material in this packet is actually review from Chemistry class (which is a prerequisite for this course), so all concepts should be very familiar to you. As textbooks are not issued until the first day of classes, you may use any resources at your disposal (such as books, websites, old notes and papers from Chemistry class, etc.) When we gather together for the 7-8 days of class, we will go over this material at a very rapid pace, as the amount of information and the conceptual rigor of the course requires that we "jump-in" to learning the material right away! After instruction, we will have a 50 point quiz over the material in the packet and the instruction presented in class.
- B. Two Articles covering main concepts in Biology. The first article is titled "Climate Change is Affecting Altitudinal Migrants and Hibernating Species"; the second is titled "Behaviour Physiology: The Thermal Strategy of Leatherback Turtles". You are asked to read both of these articles prior to the first day of class. Students are encouraged to highlight key concepts and any supporting data of the main points directly within the articles as they read. (So you may write on these copies.) These are in preparation for discussions leading to an understanding of the framework for this class.

I look forward to seeing you in August, and also to a strong, successful beginning of your experience in AP Biology here at Southwest! Have a restful, exciting summer!

Dr. Martens

AP Biology Teacher
Science Department – Blue Valley Southwest

"The Earth does not belong to us. We belong to the Earth." -Chief Seattle
