

Summer work 2026-27 school year:

Dear AP students,

I am really excited to get to know all of you and to teach you Biology. It is a rigorous course but you will learn a lot and will realize it encompasses skills you already have curiosity, wonder, and a desire to learn more. We will build on these skills throughout the year. I have 4 requirements before we start on this journey.

- Please get some rest and relaxation during the summer
- Please bring in a shoe box- I know you may have got some new shoes or someone in your family did. Thank you! If you don't have one I am sure we can have a few people keeping an extra shoe box in their closet for the fall.
- **Who are the different organisms in your world?**
 - Observe 6 organisms (plants, animals, [protists](#), [fungi](#)) from these different kingdoms. You don't have to use all of them but variation is important. Ex. if you choose animals don't choose 6 different dogs. The idea is to see variation in your world. The links for protists and fungi have links to videos.
 - Use this app [I naturalist](#) to take pictures and identify the organisms you discover either in your grocery store, in your garden, in the ocean, lake or river.
 - Share the 6 photos here in this doc.
 - Where did you find them (location)
 - 3 facts about them (basic research)
- **In celebration of 250 years of the Independence of the US, we will look into what the indigenous peoples say about nature and how humans interact with nature.**
 - Read this book [Braiding sweetgrass for young adults](#). This is a link for amazon but you can get it on your kindle or whatever medium you want.
 - Buy your Biology class notebook (1 subject book). We will fill it.
 - **Start using the notebook.**
 - Write down 5 interesting facts you learned about while reading the book. Get a spread of examples throughout the book.
 - Note the page and what the author says about the topic/example that the author talks about.
 - Write a 2-3 sentence reflection about each. It could be something about what this example reminds you of, something you read, encountered, a tv show, a song, a movie, a story you heard etc.
 - Try and read throughout the summer if possible so you can reflect more easily.