

HOLY CHILD

EDUCATING YOUNG WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE AND ACTION

AP Biology 2018-2019 Summer Reading Assignment

Hi AP Bio students! Over the summer, you are going to get a jumpstart to our year together by reading the first five chapters of “Survival of the Sickest” by Dr. Sharon Moalem. There is also an optional scavenger hunt that I encourage you to look at and attempt. There is much to cover in our course next year and your book will begin to introduce several of these topics, including evolution, disease, the immune system, enzymes, proteins, and molecules. It’s a fairly easy (and fun!) read but presents a lot of information so read carefully and pay attention to the guidelines for your reading assignment below. Please be prepared for a class discussion on the book during the first day of school.



Assignment: Read the introduction and first 5 chapters of “**Survival of the Sickest**” by **Dr. Sharon Moalem**. You may either purchase a copy or check out of your local library, but my recommendation is to purchase the book since we will be reading the remaining chapters throughout the year. You will also need a **blank marble notebook** that you will keep as a journal for the reading assignment. The rest of the notebook will become your lab notebook for the rest of the year so it is important that it is a new notebook.

What to write: Instead of writing a traditional “book report”, you will write a collection of “free writes” as you read the book. You may choose to have your journal close by and jot things down as you read. Or after every chapter, perhaps you set a timer for 10-15 minutes and write your thoughts and reflections on the whole chapter. **For each journal entry, please include the relevant chapter titles.** The goal is to have a record of your thoughtful reflection on the whole book. We will have a class discussion on the book, and you will turn in your completed notebook on the first day of school. It will be graded as your first lab activity – please see the rubric on the next page to help you prepare.

For **each** of the 5 chapters, make sure to:

- Reflect on the big ideas/main points of the chapter
- Include 1-2 interesting anecdotes (stories) the author uses to get a point across.
- Include your thoughts/reactions to what you read
- Include your own questions (at least FIVE for full credit) as they form in your mind while you read (Ex. “Does the blood donated by a hemochromatosis patient get used by other patients, or is it thrown away?”)

Here are the guidelines that will determine your first grade in AP Biology:

“Survival of the Sickest” Reading & Journal Scoring Rubric

Reading Journal	
<p>Your journal is neatly handwritten (pictures/doodles are encouraged!)</p> <p>Your name and the book title appear on the first page of your journal (or on the outside cover).</p> <p>You have a chapter heading for each of the 5 chapters (and introduction).</p>	<p>_____/ 5 pts</p>
<p>You include the big ideas/main points from each chapter, as well as 1-2 of anecdotes (a story about a real incident or a real person) used in the reading.</p>	<p>_____/15 pts</p>
<p>You have included a thoughtful reflection (what did you find interesting, gross, questionable, etc) for each chapter.</p> <p>You have included AT LEAST FIVE of your own questions for each chapter.</p>	<p>_____/10 pts</p>
<p>Total Points Possible for Reading Journal ____</p>	
<p>/30 pts</p>	
Class Discussion	
<p>You are actively listening and engaged during discussion. You offer thoughtful questions and comments related to the reading. You encourage classmates to respond if they are quiet and haven't contributed much. You are respectful to each other.</p>	<p>Total Points Possible for Discussion</p> <p>_____/10 pts</p>

Total: _____/40 pts

OPTIONAL Assignment: Summer Activity Scavenger Hunt

Complete the task listed, and provide the appropriate documentation (indicated in parentheses). For every four that you complete and document successfully, I will give you **three bonus points** on your first exam. You can also do some of these activities together with others in the class! You (or some recognizable part of your body) must be in the photos if a photo is required)

1. Watch the news/Check the Google News Aggregator/Read a newspaper at least once a week. (copy of article, or log of date/URL and a 1-sentence summary of a news item from each week – minimum of 6)
2. Grow a plant. (living plant brought to class on first day of school – must be higher than 6 inches)
3. Go to a state park and take a walk. (photos AND maps)
4. Go to a zoo or nature center. (photo AND stub)
5. Visit the American Museum of Natural History. (photo of you in front of the big blue whale AND stub)
6. Visit the NY Botanical Gardens (Photo of you AND stub)
7. Go to the beach. Collect sand in a glass jar. (jar of sand AND photo)
8. Build a birdhouse (lots of easy DIY ideas if you google) and put it outside (photo of you making it and the final product)
9. Catch a cicada. (photo with you near cicada or if you find a molt, bring molt into class)
10. Sleep outside, under the stars. (photo and make sure you have parent approval and are in a safe location)
11. Find an animal in the wild (no dangerous ones, please!). (photo of animal AND photo of you standing where the animal was – or as close as you can without being unsafe, depending on the animal)
12. Identify three species of tree in your neighborhood. (bring leaves into class with the correct identification of each).
13. Hold five earthworms OR two slugs. (photo of you holding them (smiling of course) AND photo of you gently putting them back in the soil).