

**2009-2010**  
**Pine Valley Middle School**  
**Mr. Adam Liebow**  
Room P-4  
Online: [www.pvms.schoolloop.com](http://www.pvms.schoolloop.com)

### **Seventh Grade Science Course Description**

The focus of seventh grade science is the study of the life. We will use the California State Framework and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District guidelines as we explore life sciences.

### **Course Objectives**

We will study five important topics:

- Cell Biology
- Genetics and Modern Genetics
- Evolution
- Structure and Function of Living Systems
- Structure and Function in the Human Body (including Family Life)

### **Course Requirements**

Each student will be graded on the following four categories:

- Class Work
- Homework
- Tests and Quizzes
- Projects/Labs

Grades are calculated using a point system, and can be viewed online at any time at [www.pvms.schoolloop.com](http://www.pvms.schoolloop.com). Every effort will be made to update grades quickly, but please allow up to two weeks for an assignment to be graded.

### **Class Work**

Activities in class include workbooks, reports, study aids and video notes. **All class work, except the workbook pages, is kept in your science binder, which you bring to class every day.**

### **Homework**

This includes reading notes, follow up activities and work on class projects. **All homework is kept in your science binder.**

### **Tests and Quizzes**

Students will be tested on their understanding of the material and on skills taught in class. We will learn study skills and fact-finding techniques so that students know how to succeed on tests.

### **Projects/Labs**

Students will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities during the course of the year. They will be able to investigate and explore various concepts of Life Science to help in building and understanding the science behind each lab activity.

**Binder and Binder Reminder**

Each student should have a science binder to bring to class every day. All homework, handouts, worksheets, tests, labs and notes are to be kept in the binder in order. The first page of the binder is an assignment sheet, which lists all the assignments by number. The binder will be graded on completeness, organization and neatness. The binder reminder must be brought to class every day. We start our science learning using the binder reminder. On Fridays we have a binder reminder check.

**Classroom Behavior**

Our class rules are the same as the Pine Valley School rules. Please refer to the handbook for these rules. We also have classroom safety rules, particularly during laboratory experiments. Safety and respect for others are the most important rules.

**Tardy Policy**

The first tardy to science class results in a verbal warning, the second in a litter pickup, and the third tardy a fifteen minute lunch detention and parent notification. The fourth tardy will result in a referral to the office.

**Absent/Late Work**

Late work is only accepted if a student has an excused absence or uses a late pass. If a student is absent, the missed work must be completed and turned in within one week. Each student will receive one late pass every quarter. Students must keep track of the number of late passes used per quarter. Students are responsible for checking Schoolloop for missed assignments, and talking to the teacher about assignments. Remember, all class work, homework and tests must be made up within five days upon returning to class.

**Grading Policy**

Class work/Labs	25%
Homework/ Projects	25%
Tests/Quizzes	40%
Participation	10%

**Grading Scale**

98 – 100 % = A+	87 – 89 % = B+	77 – 79 % = C+	67 – 69 % = D+
94 – 97 % = A	84 – 86 % = B	74 – 76 % = C	64 – 66 % = D
90 – 93 % = A-	80 – 83 % = B-	70 – 73 % = C-	60 – 63 % = D-
<b>Below 60% = F</b>			

**Teacher Availability**

Mr. Liebow is available at 6<sup>th</sup> period lunch time, when not on duty, Monday through Thursday for students to make up absent work, get extra help, or make up tests and quizzes. Parents can reach me on Schoolloop with specific questions, or parents can call the school at 479-7700 to leave a message or to set up an appointment.

I expect all my students to be RESPECTFUL, RESOURCEFUL, and READY TO LEARN!

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Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_