SPECIAL EDUCATION LIFE SCIENCE
GRADE 9
(2 Semesters)

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This class is an introduction to basic biology. Students will learn about simple plant and animal forms as well as more complex organisms. The curriculum stresses relationships among the facts presented and continues to emphasize reading, writing, listening, and study skills. The class is relevant, motivating, and challenging without being overwhelming. The curriculum includes the systems of the body and has lifetime applications for students.

UNITS OF INSTRUCTION:

UNIT I - Scientific Method

UNIT II - Needs of Living Things

UNIT III - Ecology

UNIT IV - Cells, Tissues & Organs

UNIT V - Classification

UNIT VI - Simple Organisms

UNIT VII - Plants

UNIT VIII - Plant Structure & Function

UNIT IX - Animals Without Backbones

UNIT X - Animals With Backbones

UNIT XI-XV - Systems of the Body

UNIT XVI - Immunity

UNIT XVII - Reproduction

UNIT XVIII - Heredity

STUDENT OUTCOMES:

1.	Become acquainted with the scientific method and process. (11A)
2.	Develop an awareness of ecology and environmental concerns. (12B)
3.	Become familiar with the needs of living organisms (12A)
4.	Become familiar with cells, tissues, and organs. (12A)
5.	Become familiar with ways to classify plants and animals. (12A)
6.	Become acquainted with simple organisms. (12A)
7.	Increase awareness of the need for plants. (12A)
8.	Become familiar with plant structures and functions (12A)
9.	Become acquainted with animals without backbones. (12A)
10.	Become acquainted with animals with backbones. (12A)
11.	Understand basic science vocabulary and concepts. (12B)
12.	Become acquainted with careers in science

MAJOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES:

1.	Participate in classroom activities (oral reading, note-taking, auditory questioning)
2.	Complete all classroom and homework assignments
3.	Produce (a) project(s) (unit and/or semester) as assigned
4.	Maintain an organized course notebook (notes from the text and class, discussion sheets, laboratory sheets)
5.	Participate in small group activities and laboratory assignments
6.	Meet IEP objectives
7.	Attend a field trip

ADOPTED TEXT OR PRINCIPAL MATERIALS USED:

Bernstein, Schachter, Winkler, and Wolfe. *Concepts and Challenges in Life Science*. Globe Fearon, 1998. (adopted 1999)
Janus Life Science. Globe Fearon, 1996. (adopted 2001)

(01/10/04)
(06/01/00)