

9 Ways Students Succeed in Biology

1. **Good decisions, positive behaviors, good attitude**

Payoff: Valuable interaction with teacher and classmates.

2. **In class everyday.**

Payoff: Consistent access to class activities including labs, demonstrations, and discussion

3. **All assignments completed on time.**

Payoff: Stay current with the rest of the class and no credit loss to lateness.

4. **Good organizational skills**

(brings supplies everyday and maintains a organized notebook)

Payoff: Easy access to notes and assignments for reference and studying.

5. **Works well with others** in lab group despite differences in personality or ability. (A lab group is 2-4 people and we change lab groups frequently.)

Payoff: Learn from others and the opportunity to communicate what you know and help others succeed.

6. **Student seeks help when confused** in one or more ways:

(lab group, study buddy, Mr. Roth)

Payoff: Learn to be in control of your own learning, identify areas of weakness and overcome them.

7. **Completes all parts of research assignments or term projects** to the best of his/her ability. (Some projects are completed in lab group)

Payoff: Learn to work independently and creatively to produce original work as well as be a valuable member of team.

8. **Has self confidence** and believes, "I can be good at science"

Payoff: A positive self image that helps you overcome obstacles.

9. **Sees the content and skills taught** in this class as a **stepping stone** for exploring science and pursuing science interests to greater depth.

Payoff: Sees the direct connection between a strong education and a successful future and the desire to use OHS as a valuable resource.

9 Ways Students Struggle in Biology

1. **Poor decisions, negative behaviors, poor attitude**

Cost: Negative interaction with teacher and classmates

2. **Poor attendance**

Cost: Lack of access to class activities that cannot be done at home
(labs, demonstrations, discussion)
Attendance also hurts lab group members.

3. **Missing or late assignments**

Cost: Falling behind and credit loss to lateness.

4. **Poor organizational skills** (missing supplies and disorganized notebook)

Students are expected to keep and organize all papers in a separate science notebook for the entire school year.

Cost: Little or no access to notes and assignments for reference/studying.

5. **Has difficulty with others** in lab group.

(A lab group is 2–4 people and we change lab groups frequently.)

Cost: Liability to lab group and lack of access to help from classmates.

6. Student **does NOT seek help when confused**

Cost: Student is not in control of his/her learning.

7. **Does NOT complete research assignments or term projects,** or works below ability level.

Cost: Student doesn't practice working independently and creatively and is a liability to the lab group.

8. **Lacks self confidence** and believes, "I have never been good at science"

Cost: A negative self image is stronger than any teaching method or strategy.

9. Student is **apathetic** and has **little or no desire to see the value of a strong education.**

Cost: Student misses out what this course and OHS has to offer to prepare him or her for a successful future.

9 Ways Parents Can Help

1. **Remind** your student that **mistakes are part of the learning process.**

Payoff: Student remains positive and motivated as s/he learns.

2. **Schedule extra curricular activities** (appointments, family trips, etc) **outside of the school day.**

Payoff: Student is in class to experience the activity.

3. **Ask** to see your student's **updated scoresheet.** (signatures = E.C.)

Payoff: Student learns to be accountable for assignments and his/her grade in class.

4. **Teach** your student to **stay organized**

Payoff: Student spends his/her time working rather than searching.

5. **Ask** your student about **what s/he is learning.**

Payoff: Students better grasp material when they can explain it to others.

6. **Encourage** your student to **schedule & complete community service hours**

Payoff: Student helps themselves (points, resume builder, etc) and our community (great P.R.)

7. **Remove distractions**

Payoff: Student can focus on his/her job here at OHS.

8. **Encourage excellence.**

Payoff: Students will rise to meet your expectations.

9. Be **proactive** about **tracking your student's progress.**

Payoff: Student is working to maintain a good grade throughout the semester rather than just before a grading period.

Poster Voting

Student Name: _____

1st Place: _____

Parent Signature: _____

2nd Place: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

3rd Place: _____