

Brookwood High School - Gifted Biology 2024-2025

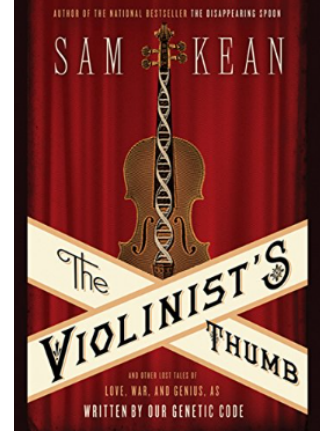
As you prepare this summer for a successful entrance into your freshmen experience, there is **ONE REQUIRED** item to prepare you for Gifted Biology. In order to find this assignment, you will need to go to the BHS website. Under the Academics tab, you will find the link for AP Summer Reading/ Summer Assignments. After clicking there, you will find:

1. See Instructions for *The Violinist's Thumb* Summer Reading.

Part I: Read & Write for the Summer Assignment. Chapters 1-3, 5-7, 12, 13, 15.

Part II: Create a 3 minute Video this summer (you may work on this Video with up to 3 other Gifted Bio students). The Video will be turned in by Adding a File to Google Classroom.

TURN IN the FIRST FRIDAY of school (**tentatively August 9**) for a grade. Either purchase the least expensive copy of Sam Kean's *Violinist's Thumb* (2012) or download an online FREE .pdf copy. *** You will complete the Assignment that is found on the BHS website. These questions/activities prepare you to study for a separate grade (Quiz) during the first weeks of school in August. Plan on it taking at least two weeks to complete this summer assignment for a job well done. We hope this book will provide a great foundation for the topics included in our AKS, mostly the first semester of Gifted Biology about DNA & Genetics.



2. **Online access to *The Violinist's Thumb* by Sam Kean- FREE DOWNLOAD**

<https://zlibrary.to/filedownload/the-violinists-thumb-and-other-lost-tales-of-love-war-and-genius-as-written-by-our-genetic-code>

To prepare you for future Gifted and AP course work at BHS and even College, we want to challenge you to be curious, solve problems, and process concepts independently throughout the year. The hope is that your experience with summer reading will be a step in that direction. The summer reading book will serve as a tool to equip you for the rigor, enrichment, creativity, and challenge encouraged in this course. It is designed to be a bit more than you are used to, to increase muscle memory, and to spark curiosity of biology so you will come into class Asking Questions.

Gifted Biology is a privilege as well as a transitioning class to improve your time management and reading comprehension skills to prime you for all BHS and your future holds. And who knows, some of you might become life-saving research biochemists, community-serving physicians, or innovative biomedical engineers ☺. *What will the Class of 2028 be like? At what level, will you be ready to learn and grow? Is your GRIT, motivation, and bravery waiting to be unleashed? Will the Gifted Biology students ASK QUESTIONS to master content learning well and advocate for self? Will you?*

Next, you may have heard of the optional **Science Fair Project**. In 9th grade Gifted, we do a great deal of collaborative, GROUP labs that grow you in the STEPS of Experimental Design. With this background, you may want to enter the Local BHS Science Fair as well as the Regional **GWINNETT SCIENCE, ENGINEERING + INNOVATION FAIR**. We encourage you to consider learning more about this incredible opportunity. You can do one that is experimental or an engineering prototype. If you have an INNOVATIVE idea, consider developing it this summer. Then, ask your GIFTED BIOLOGY teacher for more information about the science fair. If you want to think about a Competitive topic, look at these websites to learn more about what BHS guidelines follow:

LOCAL <https://www.gwinnettsciencefair.com/>

STATE <https://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/youth/academic-special-programs/georgia-science-and-engineering-fair>

INTERNATIONAL <https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/>

Finally, we are equipped to guide you with the necessary steps in research, forming a hypothesis, and collecting the right data in an experiment and/or creating a prototype model for you to be able to be successful in future research-based work for Gifted and AP classes at BHS. **Gifted Biology gives you that solid foundation.** We are excited and motivated to work with you this coming school year. *Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.* You have made a SUPER choice to take this energetic class!

Melissa Kim

Gifted Biology

(contact Melissa.P.Kim@gcpsk12.org)