

AP Biology 2026-2027
Summer Assignment
Ms. Lee (nlee@briarcliffschools.org)

Welcome to AP Biology! This summer assignment is designed to help you begin developing the skills and foundational knowledge necessary for success in the course. Through these readings, you will explore the major themes that unify all areas of biology and review the essential chemistry concepts that form the basis of the study of life.

Please make sure to obtain a packet of readings from Ms. Lee before starting this assignment. The readings are taken from *Campbell Biology* (AP Edition, 12th Edition, 2021), published by Pearson Education (ISBN: 0-13-648687-8).

All of the following must be completed before the first day of class in September:

1) Chapter 1 Reading and Highlighting

Read all of Chapter 1, including figures, charts, diagrams, and captions. As you read, highlight the most important concepts and ideas.

Read each section before highlighting and be selective. Focus on key words and phrases rather than entire sentences and avoid focusing solely on boldface vocabulary terms.

2) Chapters 2-4 Reading, Highlighting and Annotating

Read Chapters 2, 3, and 4 in their entirety, including all figures, diagrams, and captions. In addition to highlighting key information, you should actively annotate the text as you read.

Effective annotation is an active learning process that requires you to summarize, connect, and synthesize information. Keep your notes brief and focused. Short, meaningful annotations are often more memorable and more useful when reviewing for assessments later in the course.

Additional Information

- You are **not required** to answer any of the questions included in the chapters.
- Bring your completed assignment packet with you on the first day of class in September.

Please contact Ms. Lee via email at nlee@briarcliffschools.org, preferably **by June 18th, 2026**, if you have any questions or concerns about this assignment or about AP Biology in general.