AP Biology Extra Credit Assignments – 25 points

What you may do for extra credit is generally limited only by what you are willing to do. If you are interested in improving your grade it is up to you to pursue extra credit! If you have ideas, talk to me about it. The list below represents *some* of the possible types of extra credit assignments. It is **required** that you discuss your intentions/ideas with Ms. Thayer before spending any time/money on the project.

If you wish to submit any of these projects you must follow the guidelines below:

**MODELS**

Models are excellent tools for demo and study. In general, you can design a model of virtually anything related to biology. Models are worth a maximum of **25 points**. For a model to be accepted for extra credit it must meet the following criteria: all models must

1. **begin with a written proposal** (to be presented to me) which includes a sketch of your idea, the materials to be used, and details about scale (size)

2. be unique, three-dimensional, and structurally correct

3. be durable, show careful planning and meticulous construction

4. have all parts clearly labeled

Some models accepted in the past include: atoms, simple molecules, organic compounds, specialized cells (plant or animal), fluid mosaic, exo- and endocytosis, lock and key (enzymes), mitosis, meiosis, nondisjunction, DNA, RNA, DNA replication, protein synthesis, viruses, skeletal system components…

**LITERATURE REVIEWS**

At any time throughout the semester you may submit a review of written literature. In general, the longer the article the longer the review, but the review must be a minimum of 2 pages. Reviews are worth a maximum of **25 points**. The review must be typed, double-spaced and include the following:

1. a succinct summary of the entire article

2. a discussion of how it relates to your biology studies

3. an explanation of your interest in the topic of the article

4. a copy of the article

You can review books, periodicals, newspaper articles or any other printed material pertaining to biology. Keep in mind that the quality of your chosen article will affect the quality of your review. These assignments are first come, first served, so you may not review literature that has already been reviewed and submitted by any other student.

**ORAL REPORTS**

Oral reports can be done on a variety of subjects. In general they should cover topics relevant to what is currently being studied but should focus on more detail than expected in the class objectives. Oral reports must demonstrate that you have done research, using sources other than your textbook. They are worth a maximum of **25 points.** Oral reports can accompany any of the other types of extra credit. Oral reports must:

1. be at least three minutes but not more than seven minutes in length

2. include a typed transcript of the report

3. include photocopies of your sources

**MUSIC**

I am interested in developing a library of songs that contain lyrics mentioning biology concepts. For the song to qualify for extra credit, the lyrics must require a high level of understanding of the topics mentioned in the song: in other words, the listener has to understand biology to understand the song. Songs are worth a maximum of **25 points**. The music can be of any style but must

1. not include any profanity or offensive content

2. include a copy of the lyrics

3. include a label with the artist and title of the song

4. be accompanied by a brief statement of the song's relevance to your biology studies