

AP Biology Summer Project – Cushion Points

Over the summer you will have the opportunity to earn some extra points while enjoying the natural world around you at the same time! These are called “cushion points”. You can earn these points by completing tasks from the list below. You may earn up to a total of 40 points. These points will be awarded at the beginning of the year.

In order to earn these points you may perform any of the following tasks and provide the evidence required (*in parenthesis*). Each task is worth **10 points** and may be used only once. **The total amount of points you may earn is 40.** All tasks must be received **no later than September 3rd by 11:59 pm**. Please send all tasks to my email: amy.bergstrom@mead354.org.

1. Read an article related to biology from the newspaper, a magazine, or an online source such as Science Daily, Science News, or Scientific American. *(100-150 word summary of article, including your reaction, and either a picture of the article or a link to it)*
2. Watch a movie, either fiction or non, that relates to biology. *(100-150 word summary of the movie, including your reaction, and either a picture of the movie stub or you Netflix-ing it)*
3. Research why you should not feed bread to the ducks at the park. Then go to the park and see the ducks, but don't feed them bread!! *(5 reasons that you shouldn't feed the ducks and a picture of you not feeding them bread)*
4. Grow a plant from seed or pit. Plants that may work well for this: avocado, pineapple, potatoes, onions (Google it. They're pretty easy to do). *(pictures of at least 4 stages in the plant's growth)*
5. Go to a local hiking area and take a hike and identify 5 different organisms that you see *(pictures and name of the organisms)*
6. Go to a museum. Take your time and read things and look at things and enjoy yourself. *(pictures of you enjoying yourself at the museum)*
7. Go to the ocean. Collect some sand and some seashells and make a keepsake jar to remember your lovely beach vacation. *(send a picture of your lovely keepsake)*
8. Do something that you are afraid of; hold a spider, pet a snake, stand on a super high bridge..... *(picture of you being brave)*
9. Make an awesome science t-shirt. *(picture of you and your awesome t-shirt)*
10. Wander around your neighborhood and identify three different species of trees. Be specific about the species! *(picture of you and the tree and the name of the tree)*
11. Any other ideas???? It should be related to Biology. Ask me. I may approve it.

Heads up: I *may* use the pictures in a “What we did this summer” presentation to the class. If you do not wish me to include your picture(s), please let me know in the email.