

Biology Summer Assignment: Introduce Yourself to Mr. Hach

DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Biology!

My name is Mr. Bryce Hach and I love the subject of biology and I cannot wait to share this love for the subject with you. Here is just a little bit of my background:

Mr. Hach started teaching biology and environmental science at North Yarmouth Academy in 2020. Prior to this, Mr. Hach was a co-founder of Maine Food for Thought, an educational food tour that connects the state's economy, ecology, and social fabric through the lens of its food system. Prior to this, Bryce served as an adjunct professor at the Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine, as well as Development Director at Maine Audubon. Mr. Hach is also a certified Maine Master Naturalist, where he also serves on their Board of Directors, as well the nonprofit organization, Population Connection, based in Washington, DC.

Mr. Hach also taught high school science in the Mississippi Delta with Teach For America and was a CORO Fellow in public policy leadership. He has a BA in history from Colorado College; a degree in wildlife ecology/conservation from the University of Florida; and an MS in public policy management from Carnegie Mellon University.

For the first assignment of the year, I would like each of you to write me a letter, introducing yourself to me. You can tell me whatever information ***you think*** is important about yourself.

This ***could*** include:

- hobbies and interests
- likes and dislikes (both academic, and non-academic)
- passions and goals (for this course and/or for the future)
- what your family and friends are like
- your cultural and language background
- how you learn best, your academic strengths
- challenges that you have faced in school in the past
- how you have experienced school in the past
- your favorite music, TV shows, or movies
- a picture of yourself that you feel expresses something about who you are
- illustrations, poems, or other art
- favorite quotations or sayings
- what you hope to get from this course
- anything else that might help me to be a better teacher for you this year.

You don't need to include all of the things listed here, just whatever is important about you. I have seen great letters that address all of the above topics and great letters that focus in on just one or two of them – again, write about what matters to you.

I would also like you to tell me what you would like to get from our time together in Biology class this year.

Anything you share in your letter will remain private.

Please note:

- you may type this letter or hand-write it, as long as it is easy for me to read
- make sure your letter is substantial enough to give me a good sense of who you are (take a look at my letter for a general guideline on length/depth)
- put your first and last name at the top of the page

PARENTS:

You have homework too! I would appreciate it if you would take the time to write me a brief note that will help me to get to know your student a little better (there is no length requirement for you!).

I only get to spend a short time with these awesome people, so please tell me some of the things that make them great.

Also, you have experienced the ups and downs of your student's schooling, so you have a good sense of what works for them and what doesn't. I want any and all information that will help me to be the absolute best teacher I can be, so feel free to tell me whatever you think is important for me to know.

Please email your letter to bhach@nya.org.

Thank you and have a wonderful summer.

Bryce Hach