



## *Advanced Placement Environmental Science (APES)*

Dear APES student,

I'm so glad you have chosen to take AP Environmental Science for next year! This is a full year course that is the equivalent of an introductory level environmental science college course. Remember, AP  $\neq$  easy. This is an honors-level, advanced placement course, so you can expect a fair amount of work. Of course, the more engaged you are with the material, the "easier" it will be.

We work hard in this class. In order to prepare you for the AP exam, I must finish the material in our textbook by end of April. That means we will move quickly and you must keep up with the work. To start you off, here is your summer assignment.

**Important reminder:** Your submitted written responses must be your own. Do not collaborate with other students for these assignments. You will have future opportunities to do so, but this needs to be individually generated so that I can measure your level of introductory content knowledge, critical thinking and problem solving.

\* I currently use Unified Classroom (as I have for years) but there is talk of switching over to Google Classroom. If this occurs (which is likely), then I will make the switch at some point over the summer and you can submit all of your work right into Google Classroom. I will notify you ASAP!

1. Read the essay "Tragedy of the Commons" and watch The Lorax (1972 version- old school ☺): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSSrYnc1yQs> . Compose thoughtful and thorough responses to the four prompts below and submit your electronic document to me via Google docs by **Monday, Aug. 31, 2020**. My email is [alison.beres-nork@amityschools.org](mailto:alison.beres-nork@amityschools.org) . Print a copy for yourself because we will discuss this in class.

· The Lorax is a good illustration of the Tragedy of the Commons as written by Garrett Hardin. Explain the idea behind that essay, and relate it to the television special. What are the commons in the world of the Lorax?

· What is the Law of Unintended Consequences? Give one example of an unintended consequence that arose from clear-cutting the Truffula trees.

· This story is a great example of unsustainability. What could the Once-ler have done differently with the Truffula forest that would have been more sustainable?

· Describe an example of a resource that the human population is currently using at an unsustainable rate. What is, or could be, an unintended consequence of this?

2. Read Chapter 1 and 2 from your textbook. I had them copied for you so you don't need to carry a large textbook home for the summer. Create a notes outline of both chapters. These will be checked the first week of school. We will go over this material in class and we will have a quiz on these chapters soon after school begins. You are not required to complete the practice quizzes and review questions at the end of the chapters but it is always a good idea if you do.
3. The AP exam has math-based questions. Look at "Summer Review of Basic Mathematical Skills" and complete "Math Problems" by **Monday, August 31, and bring to class or share with me**. You may type your responses or take a photo of your handwritten work and share with me in Google docs.
4. Visit, review and bookmark the AP Central website at <https://myap.collegeboard.org/login>. This is the organization that sets the standards for AP courses. We will adhere to the standards set by AP so that your work will best prepare you for the AP exam. I will send out class codes for you to join our APES class over the summer.

5. Don't forget to go outside and take a hike! AllTrails is my go-to app for finding places to explore wherever I am. Be sure to take a friend and bring your cellphone, bug spray, sunscreen, plenty of water and snacks...and of course, let your parents/guardians know (or even bring them along). If you venture out, take a picture at both the starting and ending points of the trail next to some type of marker, along with any interesting spots or findings along the way (animal tracks, cool rock formations, invasive plants, etc.). iNaturalist is another great app and this will help you identify plants and animals. Email your photos to me so that they can be shared with the class.

Be aware of environmental stories in the news and bookmark any that you find interesting so we can discuss once we return to school. Have a great summer! See you in August.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Nork