Pre-AP Biology and Washington State Science and Learning Standards: Alignment Summary

Pre-AP courses focus deeply on a limited number of concepts and skills with the broadest relevance for high school coursework and college and career success. The course framework serves as the foundation of the course and defines these prioritized concepts and skills.

When teaching a Pre-AP course, teachers have purposeful time and space to bring their own voice and lessons into each unit to best meet the needs of their students and address the full range of state standards. This alignment summary demonstrates the deep connections between the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework and the Washington State Science and Learning Standards to support teachers and schools in their planning. Along with the corresponding standards crosswalk, teachers and schools can use this alignment summary when planning and preparing to implement Pre-AP Biology.

Alignment at a Glance: Very Strong

**WSSLS:**

- Structure and Function
- Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems
- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Inheritance and Variation of Traits
- Natural Selection and Evolution

**Discipline Highlights**

- Overall, the alignment between the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework and the Washington State Science and Learning Standards is very strong.
- All five of the WSSLS disciplinary core ideas are addressed in full by the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework.
- All Washington State Science and Learning Standards are fully addressed by the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework.

Alignment between the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework and the Washington State Science and Learning Standards is described as very strong or partial. A very strong alignment is one in which the majority of standards are fully addressed by the mapped Pre-AP Learning Objectives (LOs). A partial alignment is one in which the standards are partially addressed by the corresponding Pre-AP Learning Objectives. Partial alignment can occur when one framework includes greater specificity or extends beyond the scope of the other framework. Given the focused nature of the Pre-AP course framework, some partial alignments are to be expected.
Summary

Beyond alignments to the course framework, it is also important for educators to turn to the Pre-AP Shared Principles and Pre-AP Science Areas of Focus to understand the full picture of alignment between Pre-AP Biology and the Washington State Science and Learning Standards. The shared principles and areas of focus represent the Pre-AP approach to teaching and learning, and these principles deeply address skill development and disciplinary practices that cannot be easily captured within a standards crosswalk. In summary, there are ample opportunities for teachers to address the Washington State Science and Learning Standards with confidence throughout this course.