

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## ESSENTIAL LEARNING MODEL

### BIOLOGY 12

#### What is it?

A model used to assess and evaluate student's understanding of key concepts. This method engages and enhances student's understanding and learning.

Please keep this page accessible throughout the semester, as it will review terms and processes that are a part of the essential learning model that is used for biology assessment. Throughout the semester you **will not** have a mark visible in power school or on the first report card. You will however be able to see the progression of your understanding and achievement by completing outcomes and extension work.

#### Goals of Model:

1. Allow students to focus on essential concepts (outcomes) for better understanding.
2. Provide students with opportunities for practice and redo of essential outcomes.
3. Give students the opportunity to expand their understanding when they are prepared to.

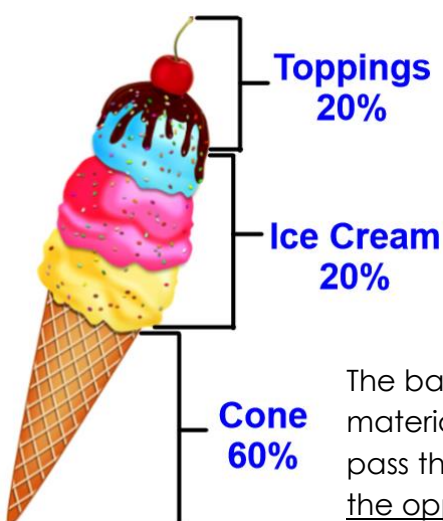
#### Essential Outcomes

- Essential = must be completed at 100% accuracy as they are necessary to passing the course. They are deemed essential as they are required to further the course/subject area or are considered basic knowledge required for other subject area(s).

#### Extension Outcomes

- Extension = additional outcomes that allow students to further their expertise and understanding of the subject matter and are not considered necessary to passing the course but rather are considered extensions to the essential learning.

This diagram below gives a good explanation of how an overall mark is assessed using the essentials and extension model.



The extra toppings (**extensions**) to the course are not considered essential to the course and are available to students to further their understanding of the topics covered. It is marked traditionally and only added to the overall mark if all essential outcomes are achieved.

The ice cream (**Exam**) gives an opportunity to show full understanding and mastery of the topics. This is only added to the overall mark if all essential outcomes are achieved.

The base cone (**essentials**) to the course are concepts considered necessary material within the course and must be completed with 100% accuracy to pass the course. Therefore no mark can be administered until you have had the opportunity to show your understanding for each outcome.

## **Best Practices for Success:**

1. Complete daily classwork by being on task during class time and completing any unfinished work at home.
2. Keep work organized (notes, outcome practice and assessments) so that you can easily find work for each outcome when you require further understanding of an outcome.
3. Log all achieved outcomes on the "Student Achievement Record" sheet provided to you and keep it in your student file.
4. Keeping all quizzes in your student file.
5. Use practice materials and classwork to assist you in better understanding missed outcomes.
6. Attend tutorial sessions with Mrs. Côtè when required.

**Throughout the course you will be expected to conference with Mrs. Côtè to discuss where you are in the course. We will work on organization and create plans for achieving missed outcomes and/or completing extensions.**

### **Questions I have:**