

Alabama High School Graduation Exam Student Review Guide: Biology

Authors:
**Kelly Davis Berg
Cecilia Lowery Boles**

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PO Box 2755
Acworth, GA 30102
Toll Free: 1-800-745-4706 • Fax 678-445-1153
Web site: www.enrichmentplus.com
Email: sales@enrichmentplus.com**

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by

Kelly Davis Berg

Cecilia Lowery Boles

Kelly D. Berg

Project Coordinator and Executive Editor

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Preface

The *Alabama High School Graduation Exam Student Review Guide: Biology* is written to help students review the skills needed to pass the Science (Biology) portion of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam, Third Edition (AHSGE). This comprehensive guide is based on the content standards of the Alabama Biology Core developed by the Alabama State Department of Education.

How To Use This Book

Students:

Passing the Alabama High School Graduation Exam (AHSGE) is required for graduation. The AHSGE is a multiple-choice exam given in five subject areas: Language, Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, Science (Biology), and Social Studies. This book is a review for the Science portion of the AHSGE.

- ① Take the pre-test found in the front of this book. The pre-test covers all the science skills tested on the AHSGE in a format similar to the actual test. The pre-test is designed to identify areas that you need to review.
- ② Score the pre-test. Using the pre-test evaluation chart, circle the questions that you answered incorrectly.
- ③ For each question that you missed on the pre-test, review the corresponding sections in the book. Read the instructional material, do the practice exercises, and take the section review test at the end of each section.
- ④ After reviewing the skills, take the two practice tests (provided as separate booklets). These practice tests are written to look similar to the actual AHSGE; therefore, they will give you practice in taking the test.
- ⑤ After taking Practice Test A and/or Practice Test B, use the practice test evaluation charts, which are found directly after each practice test, to identify areas for further review and practice. The practice test evaluation charts can be used in the same way as the pre-test evaluation chart.

Teachers:

This review guide is also intended to save you, the teacher, time in the classroom. It can be used for classroom instruction or for individual student review. Since this student guide offers review for ALL of the science skills necessary for passing the AHSGE in science, it provides you one consolidated resource of materials to help your students prepare for the exam.

- ① When teaching or tutoring individual students, use the strategies outlined above for students. By taking the pre-test, students can identify areas that need improvement. The pre-test evaluation chart directs the students to the sections they need to review for instruction and additional practice.
- ② For classroom study, use this guide to supplement lesson plans and to give additional review for skills tested on the AHSGE. Purchase a class set of guides for use in the classroom or assign guides to students for out-of-classroom work.
- ③ Assign the practice tests (provided in separate booklets) as comprehensive review tests.
- ④ Use the practice test evaluation charts found after each practice test to identify areas needing further review.
- ⑤ You may want to use the pre-test to establish a benchmark for each student. Score the pre-test by counting each question as 1 point. Then, after the students have completed all the exercises in the workbook, use one or both practice tests to gauge progress. You should see marked improvement between the initial and final benchmarks.
- ⑥ Please **DO NOT** photocopy materials from these guides or the practice test booklets. These guides are intended to be used as student workbooks, and individual pages should not be duplicated by any means without permission from the copyright holder. To purchase additional or specialized copies of sections in this book, please contact the publisher at 1-800-745-4706.

The Authors

Kelly Davis Berg graduated from Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. Besides her background in industrial research, she has worked in the field of educational publishing for ten years, and she has taught chemistry laboratory skills to students at the high school and college levels. In addition to her role as project coordinator and executive editor for educational publications in several subject areas, she has also co-authored books in science and mathematics.

Cecilia Lowery Boles graduated from Winthrop College in Rock Hill, South Carolina, where she earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees as well as the degree of Educational Specialist in Secondary Curriculum and Instruction. In addition to her certification in science, she holds certifications in Learning Disabilities, in Secondary Administration, and as Secondary Science Supervisor. She has taught biology, anatomy and physiology, and Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Biology for ten years at Rock Hill High School in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Mrs. Boles began teaching at South Pointe High School in Rock Hill in the 2005-2006 school year.

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Cecilia Boles

I would like to express my gratitude to my parents, who are still showing me the meaning of “life-long learners.” A special thanks also goes to the Thespians at South Pointe High School for their constant support and encouragement.

Kelly Berg

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