

August 24, 2009

Dear Students,

I am so excited for the new school year! Welcome to the seventh grade and to life science. My name is Mrs. DuPar. This year we will learn about living things: what makes something living, what living things are made of, what tells a living thing to look the way it does, types of living things and many more topics. We will do projects including a cell model, DNA extraction (taking DNA out of a living thing), a genetic disease poster, a timeline of earth history, a whale project, a flower model, and an eye dissection. I love life science and I hope that you will too.

I was born and raised in Santa Barbara. I went to Adams Elementary School, La Cumbre Junior High and San Marcos High School. When I attended college, I went to Santa Barbara City College and Westmont. I earned my teaching credential from Westmont too. Even though I grew up here, my family lives in Arizona, Illinois, Maine, North Carolina and Germany. I have 1 sister, 1 stepsister, 7 nieces and 2 nephews from 19 years old to 1 year old (and one niece or nephew on the way!). I don't have any of my own children.

I have been married 6 years. My husband loves science too. He is an engineer for a company called Asylum Research that makes instruments (tools) for science. This summer I went to Mexico (Jailisco, Michoacan, Colima and Guanajuato) for 2 weeks. I also went to Sequoia National Forest for 1 week and stayed near a place called Hume Lake. I also went to camp at Forest Home with a group of high students from my church. I have also traveled to Korea, Japan, Costa Rica, Argentina, Peru, Mexico (Yucatan and Quintana Roo) and Canada. I will probably share pictures and information from all of these places with you this school year.

I love to be outdoors to hike, swim, or walk on the beach. I love to read all sorts of books including mysteries, science, children's and non-fiction. I also love to watch movies, especially old ones. I love to watch basketball either at Westmont or on TV. Recently I have been cooking and gardening more!

I also love to teach. I have been teaching for 11 years: 2 years at a private school in Ventura and 9 years here at La Colina. I love to talk about nature and living things because I find it interesting! I also love to get to know students. Teaching means that I am always learning too.

I look forward to a great year of science!

Mrs. DuPar

