

## Biology Extra Credit Project – 2nd Semester 2013 – Maximum of 2% earned

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Select one of the following books to read:

### **Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment** by James Patterson

*A group of genetically engineered children, part human and part bird, flee the lab where they were created and the pursuit of the brutal Erasers, wolf-like predators sent to eliminate them so their existence will never be discovered.*

### **House of the Scorpion** by Nancy Farmer

*Matt learns he is the clone of El Patron, a powerful drug lord who controls a private empire on the U.S.-Mexico border. Though despised by humans, Matt is sure that El Patron loves him, until he learns the true – and horrifying – reason for his existence.*

### **Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith** by Deborah Heiligman

*This biography of Charles Darwin takes a personal look at the man behind the evolutionary theory. His children doubled as scientific experiments, and his wife's religious convictions made him rethink how the world would receive his ideas. What emerges is a portrait of a brilliant man, a radical science, and a great love.*

### **Double Helix** by Nancy Werlin

*Eli Samuels, barely out of high school, is offered a job at prestigious Wyatt Transgenics. The salary's amazing, the work is interesting, and Dr. Wyatt seems to want to mentor him. It's almost too good to be true. But Mr. Samuels is vehemently against Eli's taking the job, and he won't explain why. Eli knows that there's some connection between Dr. Wyatt and his parents—something painful for his father. Something to do with his mother, now debilitated by Huntington's disease. As Eli works at the lab and spends time with Dr. Wyatt, he begins to uncover some disconcerting information—about himself.*

### **In order to be considered for Extra Credit you must complete the following:**

1. Read the book and complete the appropriate chapter summary worksheets.  
(These documents are located on **Edline**)
  - a. Identify the key characters of the book.
  - b. Summarize each chapter & describe connections to what you have learned in Biology.
  
2. Attend an appropriate Book Talk to discuss the book with a collection of your peers.
  - a. Book talks will take place during the week of May 14<sup>th</sup> (Tues) – 17<sup>th</sup> (Fri).
  - b. There will be at least 2 book talk sessions for each book.
  - c. Book Talk Schedule with meeting time and place will be posted on **Edline** at a later date.  
Listen for your teacher to make an announcement.
  - d. The book talk will take approximately 30 minutes.

While the Biology Team has carefully selected these books, some contain profane language or topics of a graphic nature. ***Students must obtain Parental Consent to participate!***  
**The parental consent information and signature can be found at the top of the Chapter Summary worksheets.**