

8th GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE
COURSE DESCRIPTION, CLASS REQUIREMENTS & GRADING
2011-2012

I. COURSE: Physical Science

A. Course Description: This course will introduce students to Physical Science and the Scientific Method. A strong foundation here will allow them to move on to Life Science (Biology), Chemistry, and Physics in subsequent high school years. The curriculum covers:

- Matter – the composition and nature of matter, atomic structure and the periodic table, chemical bonds
- Types of Substances – metals, nonmetals and metalloids, organic compounds, other useful materials
- Interactions of Matter – solutions, chemical reactions, acids, bases, salts
- Matter in Motion – forces in motion, work and energy, types of machines
- Energy at Work – thermal energy, waves, sound, light, nuclear energy, energy resources
- Electricity and Magnetism – static electricity, currents and circuits, conductors and insulators, electric cells, measuring electrical energy, electrical power, magnets and magnetic fields, electricity to magnetism, magnetism to electricity, electric motors and electronics, superconductivity

We will participate in the spring “Science Showcase”. From time to time the Biblical ramifications related to some of the topics will be discussed.

B. Text: Physical Science, Christian Schools International (CSI)

C. Format: Classes will consist primarily of lecture and discussion of new material. Some time in class will be given each day for work on homework assignments. Homework will consist of pages out of the textbook and handwritten solving of problems. There will typically be 1 test every 2-3 weeks.

II. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

A. Materials required for every class session shall include:

1. 2 sharp Pencils or a Mechanical Pencil and an eraser
2. Three Ring Binder Notebook
3. Lined Binder Paper
4. Set of 5 Dividers for your Notebook
5. Textbook

B. Paper Headings - All papers pertaining to this class shall have a heading on the upper right hand corner to include the following:

STUDENT'S NAME
CLASS TITLE
ASSIGNMENT TITLE
ASSIGNMENT DATE

C. Notebook Organization

SECTION 1 - Class Rules, Course Description and curriculum oriented handouts
(not test reviews, HW handouts, etc.)

SECTION 2 - Lecture Notes (taken each day, dated), Test Review Sheets, etc.

SECTION 3 - Assignments sheets, Homework Assignments, etc.

SECTION 4 - Tests & Quizzes

SECTION 5 - Miscellaneous Material

III. GRADING

A. Semester Grading will cover 5 items as follows:

1. Unit Tests, Final Test & Notebook	40%
2. Homework	15%
3. Chapter Quizzes	15%
4. Labs	10%
5. Citizenship	20%
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	100%

B. Information pertaining to grading scales and due dates:

1. Homework will be accepted and checked for completion and neatness each day. Homework turned in after the Chapter Quiz will not be accepted. Incomplete homework in which at least half the work is done will result in a ½ credit and a reduction in your citizenship grade. Homework which has less than half the work will receive a "0" and a reduction in your citizenship grade. Late homework must be complete and will receive only a 75% credit. Late homework will also lower your citizenship grade.
2. NOTEBOOKS are graded on a 1 to 5 scale and are only allowed to be turned in for extra credit at time of unit test. (Up to 5 points will be added to your test scores)

C. Typical grade cutoffs will be as follows:

A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	59% - 0%