

8th Grade Physical Science Syllabus

Chinese Christian Schools

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Course Description



Textbook: Prentice Hall Focus on Physical Science

ISBN# 013044345x

Students will have a basic understanding of the following topics and perform basic calculations related to these topics:

1. Motion, forces, work, heat, energy, and power
2. Sound and light
3. Electricity and magnetism
4. Outer space

The following items are mandatory and will be provided to the students and charged to their account: Focus on Physical Science Guided Reading and Study Workbook (ISBN# 0130527297), lab coat, and goggles. Please advise if student will provide these items on their own within the first 2 days.



Grading

Grades will be assigned on a standard point scale: A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=70-79%; D=60-69%; F=59% or below. Course grades will be based on tests and quizzes (50%), labs (25%), homework/class notes (15%), and projects (10%). Citizenship grades are based on classroom behavior, cooperation and performance in lab groups, respect of classmates and teacher, and teacher discretion. Each day an assignment is late, 10% of the grade is taken off the total score possible, along with any other deductions. Assignments and grades will be posted in a timely manner on ccs.powerschool.com/students - it is the student's responsibility to make sure that assignments are complete, turned in, and recorded.



Tests / Quizzes

Tests will be taken near or at the end of every unit. Tests and quizzes are worth 50% of the student's overall grade. Quizzes will be given almost daily over the reading of each section.

Students can expect 3-5 quizzes weekly, whether announced or unannounced.



Lab Work

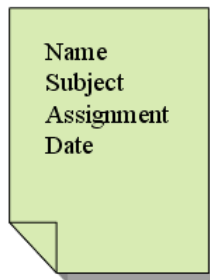
Lab work may include pre-lab assignments, work performed during the lab, or written results of lab work. Lab work should be completed thoroughly and questions answered from a scientific perspective. Careless or thoughtless work will be redone by the student and given a grace period of one day. Lab work is worth 25% of the student's overall grade.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR OR WORK WILL BE REPORTED TO PARENTS.



Homework / Class Notes

Homework should be done neatly and completely. **All homework must include name, subject, assignment, and date to be accepted!** Class notes will also be checked for content and may be turned in as homework. (Content will be based on key concepts or definitions vital to students' understanding of a unit, section, or chapter). Homework is worth 15% of the student's overall grade.



Supplies

1. At least a 1" 3-ring binder
2. 5 dividers labeled: HANDOUTS, QUIZZES, HOMEWORK, LABS, PROJECTS
3. Composition Notebook for Class Notes and Lab Observations
4. Notebook paper
5. Writing utensil
6. Pens: Green AND Black or Blue
7. Box of color pencils OR pens



Absences

Students who miss a class for any reason are required to make up all missed class projects and homework. A student has a time period equal to the number of days absent to complete the work. It is the absent student's responsibility to find out what was missed by checking on powerschool, asking their homework buddy, or asking the teacher before or after school - not during class! If a student is absent the day of a test or quiz, he/she is responsible for scheduling a time to make up that exam.

HELP!

Getting Extra Help

Successful students will ask for help. Students are encouraged to contact the teacher as soon as any difficulties with the course content or course requirements arise. I am available to meet with students or parents by appointment to address any questions or concerns.



Class Rules

1. **Be prepared.** Have all materials at your desk and be seated before the bell rings.
2. **Respect others.** Respect the people, equipment, and furnishings of the classroom.
3. **One-Voice Rule.** Do not speak during instruction time, or when others are speaking.
4. Use private voice when working in small groups or in pairs.
5. Uphold all school rules. No hats, hoodies, PDAs, MP3s, Cell phones OFF.

Consequences

1st time: Name recorded on board

Verbal warning

2nd time: One check / change seats

300-word typed essay

3rd time: Two checks

Parents will be contacted

600-word typed essay

4th time: Three checks

Meet with administrator

900-word typed essay

Classroom Procedures

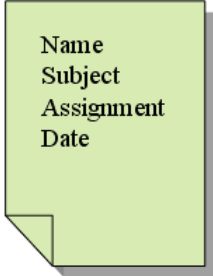
Entering the classroom

- Enter in a quiet manner
- Turn in homework
- Obtain the materials you need
- Sit down quickly and begin your work



Turning in work

- Heading (follow the format at upper right corner)
- Never turn in, use hole-puncher, stapler, or attempt to work on homework during instruction time.



Name
Subject
Assignment
Date

Materials

- Raise hand
- Teacher acknowledges request
- Quickly get materials and return to seat

Restroom/drink

- Raise hand
- Teacher acknowledges request
- Use emergency pass
- Return pass to TEACHER

Tardiness

- Give pass to teacher upon entering
- Without a pass, consequence for violating rule #1
- Follow procedures for entering the classroom

Absenteeism

- Check absence box for homework with your name
- Check calendar and complete missed homework

Lab Work

- Come dressed appropriately
- Come with all necessary materials
- Be ready to work
- Follow all safety guidelines

Emergency

- STOP Stop, turn, and look
- FREEZE Don't move a muscle
- GO Line up outside the classroom

Consequence form

❖ Which rule have I broken?

❖ _____

❖ What action will I take in the future to ensure that this offense is not repeated?

❖ _____

School Activities

Science Bowl (School-wide competition)

- ❖ Students will answer multiple-choice questions verbally
- ❖ The competition will be held at San Leandro campus in December.
- ❖ Competition is intense. Students will practice during lunch periods.
- ❖ Students will be recommended for the Regional Science Bowl.

Regional Science Bowl

- ❖ Recommended students from the school-wide competition will attend the Regional Bowl.
- ❖ Science Bowl will be held in TBA on a Saturday in January/February.
- ❖ Students will be competing with other schools in the region.
- ❖ Competition is intense. Students will prepare during lunch periods.

Science Fair (School-wide competition)

- ❖ 7th grade will join, 6th and 8th grades are invited to join.
- ❖ Students will perform an approved experiment of their choice.
- ❖ Students will write a report and present their ideas at the San Leandro campus in January (judging will take place at that time).
- ❖ First and second place winners will go to Great America's Physics Day in May.

Science Fair (San Francisco)

- ❖ First and second place winners from the school-wide fair in each category will have the opportunity to go to San Francisco.
- ❖ Winners from this competition have the chance to win scholarship money toward college (up to \$50,000).

Science Placement Testing

- ❖ 8th graders will participate in this testing for placement in high school

Letter to Parents

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year at CCS! I will be your child's 8th grade science teacher. This year we will be studying a variety of exciting topics related to Physical Science. In order to help your child successful in science class, I encourage parents/guardians to stay involved too. The best way to do that is to do the following:

- Review the course syllabus with your student.
- Check your student's planner and Powerschool regularly, to verify that all assignments are complete, and to be prepared for any upcoming tests/projects.
- Help your student find a quiet place to study.
- Help your student stick to a schedule when tackling big projects such as lab reports, research papers, and the science fair.
- Review for all tests / quizzes with your student and encourage him/her to come and ask questions if there is something that is still not completely understood.
- Call or e-mail me (e-mail is preferred) in order to ask any questions.

I look forward to meeting all of you soon.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely

Ms. Pan



Please cut off the portion below and return it to school with your student

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this checklist, your time is greatly appreciated! Please review the following and complete the information on the back.

I have read and reviewed the following forms: (check and sign at the back)

- Teacher contact information
- Course description and supplies
- Parent introduction letter
- Classroom procedures

Student name (print) _____ Student signature: _____
Student E-mail _____ date: _____

Parent/Guardian name (print) _____ signature _____
Parent/Guardian daytime phone _____ E-mail _____