

Ben Franklin Academy 8th Grade Physical Science 2023-2024 Course Syllabus



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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Eighth-grade physical science provides an overview of the physical world and allows students tools and concepts to think clearly about motion, forces, energy, heat transfer waves, sound light, magnetism, and electricity. Eighth graders will be required to successfully complete a choice of a culminating project called "Project 170," between a capstone project, science portfolio, or entry into a STEM competition.

~PLEASE NOTE~ As science is never segmented into trimesters in real-life, we will always be open to learning how the sciences work together.	TRIMESTER ONE August 16-November 15 Electromagnetic Radiation Sound Light TRIMESTER TWO November 16-February 28 Electricity Magnetism Motion Laws of Motion Work, Simple Machines and Power TRIMESTER THREE February 29-May 24 Forces and Fluids Energy Energy Resources Thermal Energy 170 Project Presentations
INSTRUCTIONAL ORGANIZATION	 Individual and small group work time, small group instruction, large group instruction, individual and group presentations will be used regularly. Labs (virtual and hands-on), STEM challenges relating to content and projects will be emphasized
TYPICAL DAILY AGENDA	 Start-Up Lesson/Activity/Lab Closing
LAB EXPECTATIONS	 Treat each other politely and kindly Treat School Property respectfully Be prepared for class Work from "Bell to Bell" Make a sincere effort in your work and decorum Request help if you need it Solve conflict with care and respect Follow all school rules and policies as stated in the student handbook One student at a time to the restroom.
POLICIES and PROCEDURES	 Be on time for class Be prepared on presentation days (Labbook, Chromebook, Pencil Bag) Working voice level onlyno loud voices No Cell phones in class No Backpacks in Class
CONSEQUENCES	 Initial misbehavior will result in a verbal warning. Failure to correct this misbehavior will result in one of the actions listed below: a. Verbal Warning and Student/Teacher Conference b. Teacher-directed detention c. Parent notification via email d. Referral to appropriate administrator
TECHNOLOGY	 School computers are for school use ONLY. Playing games and/or using non-approved websites and apps may cause computer privileges to be suspended Follow all rules included in the student handbook. NO PHONES/MOBILE DEVICES: If you are using any mobile device without permission, you will be asked to surrender it until the end of class and a possible write-up.

ABSENCES	 For every day absent, students will receive two days to complete and turn in work missed. Quizzes may be taken anytime during or after an absence (provided it fits in the two-day policy)
LATE WORK/EXTRA CREDIT	 Late work is reduced by 20% each day Work cannot be turned in for credit after 4-days Teachers do not track down students for make-up work No extra credit will be given
GRADING and GRADES	 40%: Quizzes Weekly Cumulative Quizzes 40%: Labs/Projects/Presentations Various labs, projects and Presentations 10%: Classwork/Homework Any and all work not completed during class 10%: AED: Attitude, Effort, Decorum: Participation and behavior (10 points each week) Official grades will be on Gradelink, please do not use Google Classroom to check grades.
GRADING SCALE	Standard Grading Scale 100 - 90 % = A
WORK REQUIREMENTS (The basics)	 LAB WRITE-UPS: Follow format, be neat and organized Some write ups will be full lab write-ups while other will be partial PROJECTS: Individual and group projects Class time will be given, but you may work on these at home STEM CHALLENGES: Individual and group Engineering design challenges Follow the engineering design format PRESENTATIONS: Sharing your work to the class, not all projects and challenges will be presented QUIZZES: Weekly quizzes on Friday (or last day of the week) Quizzes are cumulative SCIENCE NOW
SCIENCE NOW	 Eighth graders will be required to successfully complete one "Science Now" project Students choose one project between a SCIENCE ENOW Video, SCIENCE NOW STEAM Expo Style, SCIENCE NOW STEM Competition, or SCIENCE NOW Your Own Idea All work requirements and instructions can be found on your Google Classroom and/or your science homework website as well as discussed in class.
DUE DATES	 All due dates will: Posted In class On class website Verbalized in class In Gradelink A good idea is to keep track of your due date by writing them down
SUGGESTIONS for SUCCESS	 Be one time for class Be prepared for class Bring your charged chromebook, pencil/supply bag/lab book Take good notes Read your assigned reading before, during and after a unit Stay focused and productive Have fun! Do not let others distract you and do not be a distraction Stay on Task Take care of the lab and the equipment
COMMUNICATION	 Students may use their BFA-issued email account to communicate with teachers Well-written emails only: Use a proper example: a greeting, your message, and a proper closing. Most work can be found in the lab book, on www.quia.com or turned in on Google Classroom