

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science Syllabus 2018-2019

Welcome! This year, we will use scientific inquiry to explore physical sciences with topics such as atoms, compounds, matter, energy, motion, and forces. In this syllabus, you will find a lot of useful information that will help you be successful in this class. Please take the time to read it carefully and refer to it throughout the school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Mrs. Kuhar. I look forward to sharing this exciting year with all of you!

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## Course Requirements:

### **Class Materials:**

- **2 Composition Notebooks** (1 for each semester)
- **1 Composition Notebook** (for science fair)
- **1 Folder** with pockets & prongs, with loose-leaf notebook paper
- **Pencils** (at least 2, with sharpener or refills)
- All other supplies from 8th grade supply list

**Blackboard:** All students must access Blackboard on a regular basis for class information and resources.

<http://learn2.sarasota.k12.fl.us>

- **Username:** *N number*
- **Password:** *Student's lunch PIN*

**Techbook:** *Discovery Education Physical Science*

Online access: <https://office365.discoveryeducation.com>

- **Username:** *N number @ssasonline.org*
- **Password:** *Student's lunch PIN*

**Microsoft 365:** All students have access to an online version of Microsoft products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook email). <http://portal.office.com>

- **Username:** *N number @ssasonline.org*
- **Password:** *Student's lunch PIN*

**Student/Parent Portal:** Access to gradebook.

<https://parentportal.sarasotacountyssas.net/>

- **Username:** *N number*
- **Password:** *Student's lunch PIN*

## Expectations & Consequences:

### **Classroom Rules:**

1. Show respect to teachers, students, and other's property.
2. Listen & follow directions the FIRST time they are given.
3. Raise your hand before speaking or leaving your seat.
4. Come to class prepared and ready to learn.

### **Consequences:**

1. The "Look" or verbal warning
2. Rules writing assignment (in class)
3. Behavior Essay and Parent Notification
4. In-school detention and Parent Notification
5. County Referral

If an offense, at the discretion of the teacher, is severe enough, the first two steps can be omitted resulting in the third step, if a phone call from the teacher accompanies this action of discipline. Zero-tolerance behaviors will immediately be a fifth step offense (including refusal to complete rules or behavior essay).

## Tentative Topics:

### **1st Quarter:**

- \*Nature of Science
- \*Science Fair
- \*Energy, Force, & Motion

### **2nd Quarter:**

- \*Light Energy
- \*Properties of Matter (States of Matter)

### **3rd Quarter:**

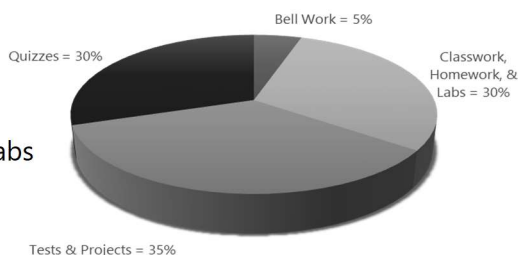
- \*Thermal Energy
- \*Structure of Matter (Atoms & Periodic Table)
- \*Chemical Changes

### **4th Quarter:**

- \*Chemical Changes cont'd.
- \*Comprehensive Review (for SSA)
- \*End of Year Project

## Academic Information:

### How am I graded?



### Grading Scale:

A = 100% - 90%

B = 89% - 80%

C = 79% - 70%

D = 69% - 60%

F = 59% and below

### Grading Weights:

35% - Tests/Projects

30% - Quizzes

30% - Classwork / Homework / Labs

5% - Bell Work

**Assignments, Labs, & Projects:** All assignments are due at the beginning of class.

- Late assignments/projects lose 10% credit each day it is late. After day 3, the highest grade possible is 50%. (Keep in mind projects are worth a test grade.)
- When absent, you have the number of days absent to turn in missing work (e.g., 2 day absence = 2 days to complete work). Any assignment or project assigned before your absence must be turned in the day you return or you can make arrangements to turn it in early.
- It is YOUR responsibility to get any make-up work or missing work and turn it in. Label any make-up work with "absent" & date.
- Most assignments can be found on Gradebook, Blackboard, or in the extra copies folder in class.
- Any work copied from another student or **plagiarized** work will result in a zero, and possibly a detention.

**Tests & Quizzes:** Quizzes occur frequently to check for understanding and are not always announced. Tests occur at the end of the unit or at Mrs. Kuhar's discretion.

- All tests will be announced the week before in class, on Blackboard, and on team news.
- Study guides are only given for tests and are due the day before the test.
- In preparation for quizzes, students should review their notes on a regular basis.
- When absent, you must make up your missed quiz/test the day you return.
- **Cheating** in any form will NOT be tolerated and will result in **zero credit** and a **detention**.
- **Test Correction Policy:** During the last 2 weeks of each quarter, students can complete test corrections to earn back half credit for any missed question. This can only be used for 1 quiz and 1 test (usually the lowest score). Access to tests/quizzes will be made available during the 2-week window.

### Extra Credit:

- Any extra credit assignments will be offered at the teacher's discretion and cannot be requested on an individual basis by students or parents.
- Any opportunity will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard.

## Science Fair:

8/31/18

**Topic Checklist due** with Parent Signature

9/10/18

**Phase 1: Research Plan due**  
(Includes: Problem, Hypothesis, Variables, Bibliography, Materials & Procedures)

10/24/18

**Background Research paper**  
(informative essay completed in collaboration with LA class)

10/1/18-  
10/29/18

**Phase 2: Experimentation**  
(Starts after teacher approval; Record observations in log book)

11/5/18

**Phase 3: Analysis & Conclusion due**  
(Includes: Tables, Graphs, Conclusion, & Abstract)

11/12/18

**FINAL PROJECT DUE**  
(Includes PowerPoint Presentation & Log Book)

11/29/18

SSA+S Science Fair (for selected students only)

### Field trips:

12/13/18

IMAG Museum of History & Science in Fort Myers

TBA

Sailor Circus (spring)

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science Syllabus 2018-2019**  
**Mrs. Kuhar**

**STUDENT:** I have read this syllabus and classroom discipline plan and understand it. I will honor it while in Mrs. Kuhar's class.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN:** I have read this syllabus and discussed it with my child. I understand it and will support it.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

**TEACHER:** I will be fair and consistent in administering the discipline plan.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_