



Welcome to Ms. Bearman's Class  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science 2007-2008  
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Welcome to class! I hope you all have had a rested summer and are now ready to jump into science this year. As you look around the room, I know some of you are confused. What kind of science are we learning? There are **NO ANIMALS** here! While I love animals, the science you will study this year is not about plants and animals. It's about what makes up everything in the universe (including our animals). We'll get to that later. Please read through this sheet to learn what to expect this year.

**Topics in order:**

What is Science?

Branches of Science

Scientific Method

Science tools and how to use them

Properties of Matter

Chemistry

Atoms and Molecule Basics

Reactions

Acids and Bases

Energy

What it is

How we use it

Magnetism

Light

Physics

Simple Machines

Newton's Laws

**Skills needed**

Graphing Skills – we will get better and better at this throughout the year

Vocabulary – we need common words to talk about new stuff so we need new words

Math skills – Measuring, converting, and some simple use of equations will be important

Computer Skills – We will do a lot of work on the computer, like real scientists☺

Communication Skills – You will need to be able to communicate your ideas effectively

Self Control – This is the first you will be allowed to do real experiments, we will practice this

**Materials needed**

Writing Utensil

Composition notebook and Folder

Calculator

Planner

## **Tests and Quizzes**

**25 % of grade**

Nearly every class you take will have some type of testing. We will have quizzes periodically to make sure you don't fall behind and tests at the end of units to show off all the new information you learned

## **Labs and activities**

**25% of grade**

Labs are some of the most fun things we will do this year but they are not always easy and sometimes require a bit of work. Some labs even may become frustrating! It's ok, the way we learn is by challenging ourselves. Some labs will be graded by worksheet while others will be graded by your ability to keep good notes in your notebook. I will let you know which it will be ahead of time.

- If you miss school a day of a lab please see me before or after class to plan a make up.
- If you are dismissed from a lab for behavior reasons you will take a 0% for that lab.

## **Projects/class work/homework**

**25% of grade**

Expect 1 project per unit. Class work every week including book work, readings, warm-ups, worksheets, word searches, etc. I will not assign very much homework other than what we do online.

- Any homework assigned will be due back the next class day, anything late will be 50% off.

## **Online Work**

**25% of grade**

Have you ever been graded on assignments you complete on the internet? It's a new way of learning, and the future. It will also be very useful (and fun) to us in studying physical sciences. There is so much more we can do and learn with this portion of the class. As this is new for most of you, here is what we will be doing online:

### **Response Question**

Each week there will be a question you will need to think about and post a thoughtful response to on the internet. A thoughtful response is one where you include your own experiences, thoughts, or opinions in the response. It must also be at least a **paragraph** long. After you post a response to the question, you must read **4** other peoples responses and offer them some positive feedback on what they wrote. You do not have to agree but be positive in what you say.

### **Presentation**

I will post power point presentations online no more than once a week. You will need to watch these and complete a word document worksheet proving you did this and send it to me online. You will get more direction on this later

### **Assignment**

Every week I will have some type of task for you to complete online whether it is a game to play, a website to visit or a movie to watch. This is something for you to do by yourself. Challenge yourself to do as well as possible. You only get one shot at 8<sup>th</sup> grade science (hopefully!) and some of this stuff you will never get an opportunity to learn like this again.

## Class Behavior Plan

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the following class expectations. I realize my teacher has put thought into each request understanding the environment that is needed to make this class successful for all. I will do the very best I can to follow these rules and help encourage others to do the same. I have also read and understand the syllabus of the course.

### **During Class:**

- I will enter the classroom each day and begin my warm-up
- I will raise my hand if I have any questions, comments, or answers
- I will not speak while the teacher or another student is addressing the class
- I will not chew: gum, food, or candy in class
- I will only bring in beverages with screw caps
- I will bring all my class materials with me each day
- I will not whine or complain
- I will clean my area and push my chair in every day before I leave

### **During time on computers: (in any class)**

- I will not email or message any student
- I will not say negative things to or about any student or teacher to hurt them in any way
- I will not play unauthorized video games
- I will be respectful of the new equipment including the key boards
- I will stay on task or be asked off the computers
- I understand that anything I write can be seen by my teacher and by other parents

### **During Lab**

- I will not run
- I will not hit another student (even in play)
- I will work quietly with my partner to help complete the lab
- I will not bring any food, drink, or extra equipment into the lab area
- I will not conduct any unauthorized experiment *(If you think you want to try something cool but not planned, let me know and I will probably let you. Allow me to be the expert and determine what is safe and not safe so you or others don't get hurt.)*
- I will clean up my area and replace items as I found them.

I realize if I break a lab rule I will be asked to leave the lab and will receive a **zero** for that lab. I understand that if I break a computer rule I will loose **all** privileges on the computers for the remaining 9 weeks or determined by the teacher. This will result in me having to find alternative ways to make up missed computer time to achieve that portion of the grade.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)