

## 8th Grade Physical Science Syllabus

Loachapoka High School  
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**Teacher:** Daisy Benford **Room:** 21

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**Google Classroom Notifications:** See Mrs. Benford for more information

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Grade 8 content standards are based upon the disciplinary core ideas in the Physical Science domain. The first core idea, Matter and Its Interactions, concentrates on the composition and properties of matter. The second core idea, Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions, focuses on examining forces and predicting and developing explanations for changes in motion. The third core idea, Energy, involves the conservation of energy, energy transformations, and applications of energy to everyday life. The final core idea, Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer, examines types and properties of waves and the use of waves in communication devices. Integrated into the Physical Science content standards are the disciplinary core ideas of the Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science (ETS) domain, which require students to employ tools and materials to solve problems and to use representations to convey various design solutions. This course will challenge students to read daily, write about what they read, analyze and interpret data, and research a variety of concepts. This course is taught using all content standards from the Alabama Course of Study – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science.

### COURSE CONTENT\*

Grading Period	Content
1 <sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks	Scientific Processes, Electricity, Waves, and Information Transfer
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks	Forces and Motion
3 <sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks	Properties of Matter
4 <sup>th</sup> Nine Weeks	Mixtures, Compounds, and Elements

\*Content objectives are defined by A+ College Ready, Alabama Math and Science Initiative, Alabama Course of Study: Science, and Next Generation Science Standards.

\*Students enrolled in the Honors class will be expected to move at a quicker pace, extend concepts, and demonstrate a deeper depth of knowledge.

### FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION

#### Materials

Students are required to have the following materials in class each day: binder, graph paper, pencil, and paper. A set of colored pencils and highlighters will be helpful. A detailed supply list can be found on my webpage. Students will access to the online textbook. Having Internet access at home or the public library is highly recommended.

#### Class Expectations

- Students will be Responsible by being on time and bringing class materials.
- Students will be Respectful to self, other students, and teacher.
- Students will be Ready to participate and learn.

#### Class Rules

- Follow directions quickly.

- Raise your hand to speak or stand.
- Listen when your teacher is talking.
- Be safe, be kind, and be honest.
- Respect others, respect yourself, and respect our school.

**\*\*Cell Phones and other permitted devices:** Students **may not** use their devices in the classroom. During class, each student will have access to a Chromebook to conduct research and complete assignments.

### **Consequences for Minor Behavior Infractions**

1. Warning
2. Student Conference
3. Parent Contact
4. Parent Conference
5. Lunch Detention
6. Office Referral

Please refer to LCBOE/ LHS Student Handbook for more information on discipline and dress code.

### **Grading**

**\*\*Note:** Parents are encouraged to establish an InformationNOW (Chalkable) Parent Portal account so they can stay up-to-date on their student's grades.

- Tests / Projects – 40%
- Class Assignments / Labs – 30%
- Quizzes (Data Set Questions)– 20%
- Homework/ Bellringers – 10%

### **Make-up Work/ Late Work**

Make-up work, which includes tests, will be administered to a student whose absence was due to illness or other reasons coded as excused. The student should be prepared to take any missed tests and turn in any assignments on the day that he/she returns to school unless it has been an extended illness and then the student will have up to three days for each day of absence to make-up the work unless otherwise approved by the principal. It is the student's responsibility to turn in all assignments and take any missed tests within the designated length of time. Make-up work must be completed prior to the end of a grading period unless otherwise approved by the principal. Students who have been suspended are allowed to make-up assignments or tests for the period of the suspension.

All students are encouraged to complete and turn in all assignments by the due date. Any work turned in after the deadline will be subject to loss of points for each day late. A grade of zero will be earned for any work not turned in by the end of the grading period. The cut off for entering Make-up/ late work will be two weeks before the end of the grading period.

Make- up work will be posted on Google Classroom at the end of each day.

### **Safety Contract**

It is by Alabama's law that all students in a science class successfully complete a safety training and have on file a safety contract signed by both the student and parent. Please read the attached safety contract with your student. Please sign and return to Mrs. Benford ASAP. No students will be allowed to participate in experiments/ labs that require chemicals and/or sharp objects until the signed contract is returned.

**Syllabus is subject to change.**

**RETURN THIS PAGE TO THE TEACHER**  
**Receipt Acknowledgement**

Teacher: Daisy Benford  
Class: Physical Science

Grade: 8

Retain the top portion for your records. Return the Receipt Acknowledgement to me.

I have read and understand the Physical Science syllabus...

Student Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address (print) \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**