



Physical Science

8th Grade

Chelsey Bicknell



Welcome to our 8th Grade Earth Science Class! I am really looking forward to teaching all of you this year! Now, please allow me to introduce myself! My name is Chelsey Bicknell. I have been married for two years and have a beautiful baby boy that is now almost 4 months old. I graduated from Virginia Tech in 2012 with a Bachelor's of Science.

In physical science, we will be learning about different non-living processes. The SOL objectives are a mixture of chemistry and physics concepts. Students will also review science topics from 6th and 7th grade to prepare for their cumulative SOL.

Course Objectives: P.S. 1 – P.S. 11

First Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Nature of Matter (8.2)
- Atomic Theory (8.3)
- The Periodic Table (8.4)

Second Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Changes in Matter (8.5)
- Forms of Energy (8.6)
- Temperature and Heat (8.7)
- Motion and Newton's Laws (8.10)

Third Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Work and Machines (8.10)
- Electricity and Magnetism (8.11)
- Sound and Light Waves (8.8, 8.9)

Fourth Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Cumulative 6-8th Grade Science SOL Review.

Textbook: Virginia Science Fusion

Required Supplies

- 3-5 Subject Notebook (five star)
- Pencils ONLY
- Colored Pencils or Crayons
- Mini stapler with staples

Grading Scale

- A ----- 93-100
- B ----- 85-92
- C ----- 77-84
- D ----- 70-76
- F ----- 69 and below

Classroom Assessments and Weights

- Homework (10%) – Given nightly as studying or written work.
- Classwork (35%) – Warm-ups, labs, and practice in class.
- Quizzes (25%) – At least once per week.
- Tests and Benchmarks (30%) – 2 benchmarks each nine weeks, 1 notebook grade.

Absence and Make-up work policy: All work should be completed within 5 days of your return to school. Even though you have 5 days, it is best to complete the work as soon as possible. Extensions on work may be given on an individual basis, according to need.

Homework policy: Homework is provided Monday through Friday (not always written) and posted on my website. Homework is always due the next day in class unless otherwise given additional time.

Classroom Expectations and Procedures:

- Take care of all bathroom and water fountain needs **before** the tardy bell. (you must be seated before the bell rings to arrive on time)
- Bring all of the required supplies to class daily.
- When you arrive, take out your supplies and start your warm-up immediately.
- All seats are assigned in groups and will change from time to time as needed for the best learning environment.
- There will be no talking when I am speaking to the class or during independent work. All pair and group activities will require talking, but strictly on topic and only with your group.
- You must remain seated during instruction, unless the activity requires it or you ask permission.
- Raise your hand and wait for me to call on you for all questions and requests.
- Be respectful to other students and their belongings.
- Each group's table must be clean with all lab materials packed away before I will dismiss them.
- All other general school rules apply in my classroom. Please be familiar with the student handbook.

Consequences:

- 3 tardies will result in a referral to administration and a letter home.
- Talking at inappropriate times, off-task, verbal altercations, and any other disruptive behaviors:
 1. Warning or seating change as needed.
 2. Brief removal and student teacher conference about misbehaviors and expectations.
 3. Parent contact.
 4. Referral to administration and parent contact.
- Physically fighting, cursing, blatant disrespect to staff, and other major misbehaviors will result in classroom removal, a referral to administration and parent contact.

Physical Science Verification Sheet

By signing below, I am verifying that I have read and reviewed the following materials for the 8th grade science course taken during the 2015-2016 school year:

- Course Syllabus
- Course Objectives
- Supply List

Students should keep the syllabus in their notebooks for future reference.

Print Student's Name _____

Date _____

Student's Signature _____

Parent or Guardian's Information:

Print Parent's Name _____

Date _____

Parent's Signature _____

If your child does a super job, or could use an extra reminder to complete their assignments how would you like me to contact you? Please fill in any means that you would like me to use and number them in order of which means would reach you the quickest or be the most convenient for you:

_____ I have reliable internet at my house and would not mind if my child was assigned homework on the computer.

_____ I do not live in an area with reliable internet, and homework on the computer would be a hardship.

	Means of Communication You would Prefer that I Use:	Please number them in order of which means would reach you the quickest or be the most convenient for you.
Home Phone Number:		
Cell Phone Number:		
Work Phone Number:		
E-mail Address:		

_____ Often I send out a mass text to let parents know that I have updated grades or that their children have a big test coming up in the near future. If you would like to be a part of these updates, please mark an "x" on the line. Just be sure to respond to this text in a separate message, so that our conversation will remain private.

I give permission for my child to be photographed. These photographs will only be used for educational records and data. _____

Please return this form to Mrs. Bicknell by Friday, September 11, 2015.