

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science

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[Salzburgscience.weebly.com](http://Salzburgscience.weebly.com)

## **Course Description**

8th Grade Physical Science is a mixture of physics, chemistry, Earth science, heredity and astronomy. The coursework will require: scientific discussions and critical thinking, application of learning through problem solving, and exciting laboratory experiments. My hope is that your student will acquire new, and refine existing knowledge to perhaps begin to view the world a little differently. The units will progress from small and ancient, examining the Chemical Origins of our universe and Planetary Origins of our solar system, growing large and more modern, to the Origins of Life and humanity.

Students are encouraged to email me early and often. They can find all the academic science resources they need compiled on our class website: **salzburgscience.weebly.com** and Google classroom. I respectfully ask parents to encourage their child to be a self-advocate and talk to a peer, search the web and email or speak to me directly regarding any questions or concerns.

**Period 1:** lnx9tn

**Period 4:** zjf45zu

**Period 3:** t63cq2h

**Period 6:** t654kj4

Parent emails will be addressed within 3 business days of receipt. If a response is not generated within that time frame, the issue was most likely handled in class. I thank you in advance for your patience.

## **The following ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS will guide our study**

- How do atomic and molecular interactions explain the properties of matter that we see and feel?
- How can energy be transferred from one object or system to another?
- How have historical Earth events shaped our world today?
- What can we learn about our own species by comparing morphology of other species and DNA

## **How and why we will practice active learning in an experience-centered, inquiry-based learning environment**

Students will regularly delve into hands-on, experience-centered activities to support their conceptual understanding of the subject matter. Allowing students to explore class topics through science learning stations, lab activities, demonstrations and inquiry-based projects will provide for an active and engaging learning environment that will support potentially difficult and abstract science concepts and phenomena.

Student Initial\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Initial\_\_\_\_\_

**Information on Grading**

Grades should be checked on the Power School portal on a regular basis. Depending on the depth and complexity of the assignment, count on grades updated within a week of the due date. Grades will be weighted; formative assessments will be worth 20% and summative assessments 80%. Formative assessments include: HW, quizzes and class discussions. Summative assessments will include: tests, projects and the interactive notebook.

Students may revise a summative assignment (lab report, extended writing assignment, test, notebook) for a modified grade. The student must coordinate with the teacher to discuss incomplete/incorrect content and determine an appropriate timeline for re-submission.

**\*\*There will be NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED**, unless there is prior communication by the student. Students who have an excused absence (i.e. sick, doctors appointment, family emergency) will have a reasonable time to submit work without penalty.

**Students can receive additional help before school, lunch or afterschool by appointment**  
(Tuesday or Thursday)

**ACADEMIC GRADING SCAE**

Please note: D and F's do not count towards A-G College Requirements, and the class may need to be retaken

A+ = 98 – 100%	C+ = 78 - 79%
A = 93 - 97%	C = 73 - 77%
A- = 90 - 92%	C- = 70 - 72%
B+ = 88 - 89%	D+ = 68 - 69%
B = 83 - 87%	D = 63 - 67%
B- = 80 - 82%	D- = 60 - 62%
	F = 59% and below

\*FYI: LCS @ LFP is considering eliminating Ds from the grade book in the future, since they do not count towards meeting A-G college requirements. If you have questions, concerns, or feedback on this matter, please e-mail [mandy.breuer@larchmontcharter.org](mailto:mandy.breuer@larchmontcharter.org).

**Classroom Expectations**

We follow the 3 R's. Be Respectful, be ready for class and raise your hand. Being respectful entails: mutual respect for yourself, each other, your teachers, and your classroom. This is how we build a safe learning community where everyone is welcome and free to grow, learn, question, and speak their truth. Being ready for class with necessary supplies is also paramount to ensure our time together is spent efficiently and learning is our focus. Students are not to use cell phones without permission during class.

Student Initial\_\_\_\_\_

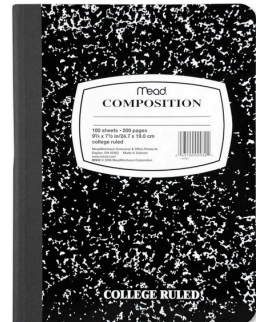
Parent Initial\_\_\_\_\_

Disciplinary action will be handled in class. Repeated infractions will result in parent contact being made. Although unlikely, if a student is engaging in inappropriate classroom behavior, they will be discretely spoken with by the teacher to determine the root cause and make any necessary adjustments. If this does not rectify the situation, a student will engage in a longer private conversation with the teacher and take time out from the current activity to reflect. If the issue has not been solved, escalates, or becomes prevalent in multiple classes, the student will complete a ten-minute reflection in the office with an email home. If the problem continues to escalate, or remain unsolved, a conference will be held with the student, grade level team, administrators and parents (PSST/SST). This may result in the receipt of a CRC.

### Required Supplies

You will need the following items EVERY DAY in class:

- Several Pencils and/or Pens
- **Graph Paper Composition Notebook (100 sheets)**
- Highlighter
- Colored Pencils (optional)
- Pencil Sharpener (optional)



The syllabus is due by Monday August 27<sup>th</sup> 2018 (for 5 points).

I have read, understand and discussed this syllabus and safety contract with a parent/guardian.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent name

Student Initial\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Initial\_\_\_\_\_