General Science Overview

General Science is a GREAT first science class and is one of my favorites because it covers so many different aspects of science. I have had students from the 6th through the 8th grade take this class successfully. The first half of the year will lay foundations in scientific history and method and focus mainly on earth science, archaeology and paleontology. The second half of the year will focus on life

science . . . specifically the human body. We will do most all the labs in the textbook (*Exploring Creation with General Science* by Dr. Jay Wile) plus I like to add items of interest when we can. I will go over with the students in class all they need to know about homework and keep working with them until we get it right. There are 16 modules in the textbook, and we will spend two weeks on each of them in class. They will complete the On Your Own and Study Guide questions at home. Because this is an introductory science class, the students will only have to write up one of the many labs we will do in class (older classes write up each one). We will spend



time learning how to write up a lab in class and as we start out it will always be "A" for effort. Within a few months or less, they will be able to write up a quick one-page lab write-up that will make any science teacher proud! This class will not only prepare them academically in introductory science, it will prepare them spiritually to defend their faith and even use their science knowledge to introduce someone to our great Creator!

They will need to have their tests photocopied from the solutions guide. There is a section with blank tests. You may want to copy these all at once, so you have them when the time comes to take them. Students are allowed to use the solutions guide for checking their study guide homework questions, but all tests are closed book and the student may not look at the test before taking it. Parents should staple or clip out the test and test solutions sections. All tests are to be taken no later than the Friday after the class we finish that module. No notes or texts can be used during the test. There is no time limit on a test but it must be taken in one sitting so always give yourself plenty of time (in other words don't start your test twenty minutes before you have to leave for church). Parents should proctor their student's test. Homework and lab reports make up 75% of the student's grade (On Your Own Questions 25%, Study Guide Questions 25%, Lab Write-ups 25%) and tests make up 25%. Students will be well prepared to take the test from our work in class. If you do your homework and turn it in on time . . . you will do FABULOUSLY in this class no matter what kind of test taker you are.

Supplies needed:

- --2 red paper folders with the metal clips inside (Write General Science, your name, e-mail address, and phone number on the front -- these are for turning in homework)
- --3-ring binder (This is to leave at home and collect all your paperwork to keep it organized)
- --colored pencils (great for lab write-ups)
- --your textbook and solutions guide (see above --always bring to class)
- --a great attitude (never leave home without this)

Moms . . . you are always welcome to visit class. Please contact me with questions or concerns at tellthetruthinsci@gmail.com

You are ultimately your child's teacher and sometimes adjustments have to be made to suit individual students. . . this is not a problem! My goal is to help them not only LOVE science but to love learning; remembering that each student has unique learning styles, strengths and weaknesses. Any successes we have enjoyed previously have been God's mercy in answer to praying homeschool moms!