Physical Science Overview

Many homeschoolers ask whether or not they can count Physical Science as a high school class. The answer depends on whether or not you are part of an umbrella school (then you will have to check with them). This course is a meaty class with a full laboratory component. Many homeschoolers have listed it on their transcripts as Honors Physical Science enabling an 8th grader to forward it on to their high school transcript. If you are part of an umbrella school or sports organization and you need grades at any time, I bring my grade book to class each week and you are welcome to check it before or after class to get their current grade.

If you work hard and complete all your assignments, you will find yourself well-prepared in the subject matter academically as well as apologetically as you learn to defend your faith. Much of what we cover with the recent edition textbook (*Exploring Creation with Physical Science* by Dr. Jay Wile) is cutting

edge and you will learn to differentiate between politically correct rhetoric and true science. I love to bring in extra info and the media is always helpful in providing examples of bad science. There is a little math in this course which some of you will find very easy. Others may need to breathe slowly into a paper bag when you see formulas in print. Don't worry; we will go over things together. If you complete homework assignments on time, you will make a good grade regardless of what kind of test taker you are.

You will need to have your **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, in fact I encourage them to do this 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. Again, if you do your homework and turn it in on time . . . you will make a good grade in this class no matter what kind of test taker you are.

Supplies needed:

- --2 green paper folders with the metal clips inside (Write Physical Science, your name, phone number and e-mail address on the cover--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.