



Morgan Road Middle School

8th Grade Physical Science Ms C. Michele Clark Course Syllabus 2018-2019

Welcome students and parents to your 8th grade school year 2018-2019. My name is Ms. Clark and I will be teaching 8th grade Physical Science. I am excited to have you on this journey, your last stop before high school.

Course Description/Objectives and Major Course Goals

The **Physical Science Georgia Standards of Excellence** are designed to continue student investigations of the physical sciences that began in grades K-8, and provide students the necessary skills to have a richer knowledge base in physical science. The standards in this course are designed as a survey of the core ideas in the physical sciences. Those core ideas will be studied in more depth during in the chemistry and physics courses. The physical science standards include abstract concepts such as the conceptualization of the structure of atoms and the role they play in determining the properties of materials, motion and forces, the conservation of energy and matter, wave behavior, electricity, and the relationship between electricity and magnetism. The idea of radioactive decay is limited to the understanding of whole half-lives and how a constant proportional rate of decay is consistent with declining measures that only gradually approach to zero. Students investigate physical science concepts through the study of phenomena, experiences in laboratory settings, and field work.

Science consists of a way of thinking and investigating, as well a growing body of knowledge about the natural world. To become literate in science, students need to possess sufficient understanding of fundamental science content knowledge, the ability to engage in the science and engineering practices, and to use scientific and technological information correctly. Technology should be infused into the curriculum and the safety of the student should always be foremost in instruction.

Instructional Philosophy

I believe that all students can learn and that learning can take place through a struggle. I will support, challenge, and guide you on this journey of loving knowledge.

All lessons are design to align with the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Physical Science. Refer to the Georgia Department of Education for a complete description of the standards

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Physical-Science-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities

Students will be engaged in laboratory experiments during the 2018-19 school year, where safety is #1. They will be expected to maintain a lab/journal notebook. According to the RCSS Science Department policy, all students are required to complete a Science project during the 2018-19 school year.

Units at a Glance	
1 st Semester	Nature of Science Unit 1: Atomic Structure and Periodic Table Unit 2: Properties of Matter Unit 3: Chemical Bonds and Reactions
2 nd Semester	Unit 4: Forces and Motion Unit 5: Energy Unit 6: Nature and Property of Waves Unit 7: Project Based Learning

Course Assessment Plan

Attendance and participation in all classes is expected of all students. Students will receive a variety of assignments designed to enhance their learning. Students will have homework Monday –Friday, as needed. Similar to practicing sports before the game, homework is the necessary practice to improve in learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment. In the classroom, there is a designated file holder for students who have missed work. The student is in charge of making sure he/she remembers to pick up, complete, and turn in missing work. All work is due within 5 days after the student has returned. If the student misses a quiz or test, the student must inform Ms. Clark immediately upon return in order to schedule a day and time to take it. If a student misses any uninformed pop quizzes, they will be informed by Ms. Clark and scheduled a time to complete this assignment.

Evaluation

Percentage	Form of Assessment	Explanation
35%	Summative Assessments and Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests are administered within or upon completion of each unit. • Projects may be group or individual assignments. • Minimum of three per grading period
30%	Quizzes (announced and unannounced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the completion of each indicator (at least 1 per week)
25%	Classwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classwork will be graded individually • Includes all daily work
10%	Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework will be assigned as needed during the week to enhance learning.

Classroom Expectations

Students will be expected to follow the RCSS code of conduct and MRMS expectations. Specifically for 8th grade Physical Science, students will be expected to

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respect yourself, peers, all adults, and the property of others. 2. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized. 3. Remain seated until permission is given. 4. Listen attentively during instruction. 5. Work in a safe manner at all times. | <p>Expectations
Follow all school rules and policies R²B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Being Respectful - Being Responsible - Be a Leader |
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Classroom Procedures & Expectations

1. Enter into the classroom, orderly, quietly and take your seat.
2. Take care of all instructional needs (sharpening pencils, getting materials, or visiting wastebasket) prior to the start of class. This must be done within the first minute of coming to class.
3. Work on the beginning class activity as soon as you are seated.
4. If you are tardy, you must have a pass from either the office or teacher that kept you late.
5. During assessments you are to raise your hand if you have a question and I will come to you. Always bring a book to read after you finish your test as not everyone will finish the test at the same time. Remember, We are Growing Lexiles!
6. During class work, raise your hand and I will come to you and if I am with another student, wait patiently and I will get to your question.
7. Do not stand up, pack your book bag, clear off your desk or leave the classroom until instructed to do so.
8. During a fire or tornado drill, remain calm and walk quietly to our designated areas.
9. During any announcements be quiet and listen until they are finished.

Course Materials

Notebook Paper (Plenty) Pencils (Plenty) Pens (Black/Blue) Highlighters Colored Pencils (No Crayons)
 Hand-held pencil sharpener 1" binder Dividers Pencil Pouch Composition Book Personal Items (Kleenex, Hand sanitizer)

Homework Policy and Grading Scale

Homework Policy and Grading Scale will be the same policies adopted by RCBOE.

Time and Place to be Reached by Parent

Email: clarkcr@richmond.k12.ga.us

WebPage: <http://www.rcboe.org/Domain/7787>

Conferences

In order to schedule a conference with your teachers, please contact the Guidance Office 706-796.4992 ext. 106.



Morgan Road Middle School

Student Contact Information

Name _____ Homeroom _____

I have received the 2018-19 8th grade Physical Science syllabus.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

1. Do you and your child have internet access at home? (Circle one) YES NO
2. Do you and your child have computer access at home? (Circle one) YES NO
3. Is there anything else about your child that you would like me to know? (Circle and explain)
 - a) allergies b) bathroom problems (attach doctor note) c) medical condition

Parent Contact Information (please print legibly below): Check best way to contact.

- E-mail address: _____
- Home phone: _____
- Cell phone #: _____
- Work phone # and hours _____

Is it okay to text your phone? (Circle One) YES NO

Brag Letter (Parents...this is your opportunity to tell me anything about your child) _____

Signing this acknowledges that I will strive for success by working hard, having high expectations, and never giving up. I have read and understand the syllabus.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____