

Physical Science 1

Course Description: Physical Science 1 will emphasize matter, energy, and their interactions. Topics will include kinetic theory, heat transfer, waves, conservation laws, atomic structure and theory, the periodic table, chemical bonds, and reaction types. The emphasis will be on the close relationship between these areas and how they are important to the individual student and society. Critical thinking and lab skills will be an additional focus of this class.

The goal of this class is to introduce students to the physical sciences. This lecture and lab course will follow the tentative schedule provided. This schedule is subject to change at any time. Students will learn and build basic science skills, explore scientific concepts, as well as perform experiments that demonstrate scientific principles.

Attendance: Students are required to be in school every day. Students are responsible for communicating with their teachers to make up missed learning.

Essential Skills:

1. Use mathematical representations to support conceptual claims
2. Construct and revise models to predict conceptual understanding
3. Plan and carry out investigations to provide evidence of conceptual claims
4. Analyze data to support conceptual claims

Course Expectations: Although not everything is graded, everything is important. In order to demonstrate growth and learning, students will need to:

1. Participate in class activities (take notes, work in a group, complete in-class tasks, ask questions) without distractions (cell phones, ear buds, games, etc.)
2. Use morning or after school time and teacher to seek help outside of class when needed.
3. Complete all assessments and assignments within teacher timelines.
4. Utilize resources to achieve set goals.

Grading

Learning (Practice) includes instructional activities in and outside of class and are not used in grade determination.

Skyward Assessment (Grades) may include quizzes, labs, learning checks, tests, assignments/homework, and projects.

Calculations:

Grades are not weighted but based on a point system

Course Graded Work
Assessments
Assignments
Quiz
Lab
Final Project

Final Grade	
A	100% - 90%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	0% - 59%

Rapid City Alternative Academy Courses:

- Will determine grades based on student learning and growth.
- Will not include practice and behavior in grade determination.
- Will give all students regardless of absence an opportunity to demonstrate learning.
- Will not include extra credit.

Instructional Resources: District Approved Physical Science Text: “Glencoe Physical Science © 2008”, Kahoot, Z-library for other resources, Unit Packet and Canvas

District approved Stem Scopes website (<https://www.stemscopes.com/>).

Reading Physical Science 1 will not have regular required readings. There may be content related articles found and implemented. These will be available for student/parent viewing through Canvas or upon parent/student request for a paper copy.

Optional Reading See the above statement under “Reading”.

Instructional Resources Select online activities/simulations from the following sites may be used as they relate to content being discovered: <https://www.explorelarning.com> (specifically the Gizmos science site) <https://phet.colorado.edu/>

Other sites will be linked in the assignment for student access in Canvas