

Ms. Toal

Kenilworth JHS

Name

Period

Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science! We cover four units based on Physical Science: Matter, Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy. This year is a transitional year in which science will incorporate both Common Core and New Generation Science Standards (NGSS). These new standards include some life science, earth science, physical science, and a component of engineering and human interaction. So throughout the year, I will be incorporating these new changes along with original curriculum. In this handout, I will explain how this class works. Consistency and organization are keys to succeed in this class.

Email [itoal@petk12.org](mailto:itoal@petk12.org)website is <http://www.mstoal.com>

## Grading

My grading policy is simple: Total points earned divided by total points possible. Point values are approximated: labs = 20, homework = 10 - 15, quizzes 30 - 60, unit tests = 150 - 200 points. Labs will make up the majority of the points. Pop quizzes will be given at any time - pay attention! **Any student who receives at least 90% on a TEST receives a homework pass.** Homework passes are redeemable at the end of the year as extra credit.

## Homework

**TEXTBOOK HOMEWORK:** Late homework from the textbook will not be accepted. Homework from the textbook is written in **LAB BOOK** in **CORNELL NOTE FORMAT**. Homework will be due at the beginning of class. Textbook homework is worth 10 - 15 points and stamped for completeness only. **LABS/WORKSHEET HOMEWORK:** Lab write ups are always written **ON LAB SHEETS**. Sometimes there might be extra time at the end of class to begin homework. Use this time wisely! These are graded on accuracy and neatness and complete and correct sentence structure (spelling counts) **I will accept late lab write ups** but there will be a percentage mark down for being "late".

## Class work - turn in all class work at the front table (bin)

You must use your class time wisely. Work that is performed during class time is called "class work"

## Lab books

You will need to bring a **70 -100 page** composition lab book to class every day. Your name must be clearly marked with a sharpie on the front cover. Do not lose your lab book, get it wet, or leave it at home. You must write in **PENCIL ONLY** in your lab book. Colored drawings will be in colored pencils only. You must have your own set of colored pencils to use at school. All notes and every homework assignment we do in class will be put in your lab book - **IN ORDER!** Keep your lab books organized, clear, and complete. I will explain lab book set up and you must keep your table of contents updated.

## Science Binder

You must have a science binder or a science section in a larger A/B day binder and keep this organized too. It will contain all handouts, quizzes, and homework. At the end of each unit, the binder may be emptied and all material inside are to be kept in your folder in the back of room 18. Each unit will be started with a cleaned out binder and a new table of contents. Binder checks are worth 15 - 25 points. **DO NOT EMPTY YOUR BINDER AT HOME! KEEP EVERYTHING IN YOUR SCIENCE BINDER!!**

## ABSENCES

There are no make-up labs. You are responsible for any bookwork questions that are included with the lab. You are responsible for getting data and missed material when you return from being absent. Come see me for notes/handouts/data and see a classmate or a science buddy. If you are absent on a test day you will be expected to take it the day you return. You may take a test once only. **Please check my website when you are absent.** Homework that was assigned when you were present but due the day you were absent will be due the next block day. Homework that was assigned on the day you were absent will be due the next block day after you return from being absent. If you do not turn it in, you will receive a zero. I will not come find you. See me if you have missed more than three block days.

## Extra Credit

I rarely give extra credit. Take it when it's offered!

## Textbook

You will receive a textbook to take home, and you will be responsible for it until the end of the year. It must be kept in *GOOD* condition! You may leave it at home in a safe place until May. One book per student - no extra's for two households.

## Behavior

I expect appropriate behavior. Misbehavior will cause immediate consequence. If you choose to misbehave, I will address you personally. If behavior does not improve, I will send you outside. If it still persists, then I will call home, send a referral to the office and if it still doesn't improve, you will receive an afterschool detention. Consistent misbehavior creates a risky environment in the science classroom. Students that create a risky environment will not be allowed in class when we use fire or other high risk lab equipment for the remainder of the year. **You will be responsible for all missed work if you are missing class due to misbehavior** (i.e. sent outside, IHS)

## WHAT DO I BRING EVERY DAY TO CLASS?

You need to bring everyday to class - **Lab book, calculator, colored pencils (set of 10), glue stick or tape, Pencil, pencil sharpener, and Science binder**

**LAB BOOKS MUST BE AT LEAST 100 PAGES** (composition book - black and white marble pattern)

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT:

Bring this form signed by your parent. 10 points (check the boxes!)

- ☐ I have read this with my child and we understand it.
- ☐ I am aware of the daily materials that I need to bring to my science class.
- ☐ I know that Ms Toal's email is **itoal@petk12.org**
- ☐ I know Ms Toal's website is <http://www.mstoal.com>

Date and sign here \_\_\_\_\_