

GENERAL SCIENCE

2020-2021

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Science education during the middle school years (6th-8th grades) is critical. Too often science is slighted or marginalized at this time with minimal lab work or diluted content producing low expectations for our young people. Our children also need to know that science supports what the Bible says and does not contradict it. I believe that the world and Satan impact our children by using science incorrectly to cast doubts and unbelief in God. General Science and Physical Science help students see and appreciate how God has created our universe while dispelling flawed secular scientific beliefs such as evolution. These classes build a science foundation and prepare students for the science classes required in high school. Speaking as a science educator who has taught in the public school for over 32 years, at KAT since 2010, and as parent who has home schooled my children, I urge you to seriously consider enrolling your son or daughter in these classes. They will challenge them and help them grow in their understanding and appreciation of God's creation. General Science and Physical Science will rotate each year so plan ahead. Physical Science will be offered in the 2021-2022 school year. Laboratory is an integral part to both these classes.

Class Description:

This is a one-year science course primarily for 7th graders, 6th graders who are strong academically, or 8th graders who need to strengthen their science background. I hope to cover each module over two weeks. There are 16 modules. Some topics include: Scientific method, designing experiments, simple machines, archaeology, geology, paleontology, and human anatomy and physiology. I especially like the section on historical science that discusses tests that show the validity of the Bible as an authentic historical work and support its trustworthiness.

You can find out more about the text by getting on the Apologia or Christian Book Distributor website.

Students should plan to devote around 45 minutes of study each school day for this class. There will be assigned homework each week. Most experiments will be conducted in class and a few assigned for home. A lab book will be prepared and graded each semester. Students will take a test after completing a module and bring it to the next class session for my grading. Semester and final grades will be determined mostly from tests and lab work. Parent emails will be sent out each week to communicate homework and any additional items of importance. **I depend on parents to monitor student use of the test/solution manual, tests that students take at home, and check to see that homework is being completed each week.**

Materials:

The text is **Exploring Creation with General Science 2nd Edition** (Published by Apologia Educational Ministries) by Dr. Jay Wile. **The Solutions and Tests For Exploring Creation with General Science 2nd Edition** is the accompanying book with the text. The 2nd Edition has material not found in the 1st Edition. Both books can be purchased through Christian Book Distributors for around \$65. There is a perforated test booklet for the 16 modules included in the Solutions book. The text is designed for the homeschooled student and is written from a Christian perspective. Please obtain these materials as soon as possible. Experiments conducted at home use common household items. I will supply any experiment supplies and copy materials used in class. A 3-ringed binder is needed for class notes and a spiral notebook is needed for lab work.

Tuition:

\$350 for the year. Payments of \$175 are made on the first day of each semester. Included in these costs are note packets for each student along with other handouts provided through out the year, rent for the classroom, and all laboratory supplies I use for the class. There is a 50% refund for anyone dropping the class within the first four weeks of the semester. Tentatively there will be no class February 8.

Tutor:

I am a Christian and the most important relationship in my life is with Jesus Christ the Son of God. I am blessed to be married to my wife, Deb, and have four children. We have homeschooled three of our four children. We attend Agape Christian Church where I am active in leadership in the Men's Ministry. I also participate at BSF.

I have experience teaching in grades K-12, most of it being at the high school level (I retired from Portage Northern High School after 32 years of teaching in the public schools) and at KAT since 2010. I received my Bachelor of Science and Masters in Teaching of Science from WMU. My major is Earth Science and minors are Math, Biology, Chemistry, and Elementary Education.