

2017-2018

SCIENCE PARTNERS HANDBOOK

For Weekly Science Classes



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SCIENCE PARTNERS

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"Ask the beasts and let them teach you; and the birds of the heavens, and let them tell you. Or speak to the earth, and let it teach you; and let the fish of the sea declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this, in whose hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind."

Job 12:7-10

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Science Education Plan



Science Philosophy

All science is taught from a **Creationist, Christian, Biblical worldview** while making students aware of other worldviews. The objective is to teach students to see the Hand of the Creator in all of nature. Classes at all levels are instructional, while stressing hands-on lab activities during each class. Students who follow Science Partners' comprehensive science education plan will progress through the Life, Biological, Physical, Earth, and Marine Sciences, covering scientific information in a sequence similar to public and private schools.

Classes for grades 3 through 8 alternate every other year between **Track A - Life and Biological Sciences** and **Track B - Earth and Physical Sciences**. High school **Biology** classes are offered every year for grades 9-12. (Biology is a prerequisite for monthly **Marine Science at SeaWorld** classes that are also offered every year for high school students.)

2017- 2018 Track A: Grades 3-8

Grades 3-4: General Life Science

Activity / lab sheets and supplemental information. (No textbook.)

Grades 5-6: Life Science and Ecology

Textbook: *Science 6*, Christian Schools International, and supplemental info.

Grades 7-8: Life Science

Textbook: *Life Science for Christian Schools*, Bob Jones Press.

Offered Each Year: High School

Grades 9-12: Biology - Textbook: *Biology*, 4th edition, Bob Jones Press. An honors option is available. Information will be handed out and discussed during the first class.

Grades 9-12: Marine Science at SeaWorld - meets once a month on a Friday for students who have successfully completed high school biology. See MSSW Handbook.

Quarterly Quizzes

Quizzes will be emailed home quarterly for weekly students. They are to be administered by parents and returned at the next class for grading. Quiz dates are listed on all student calendars. Quizzes can be very useful for evaluation, but they are not required. If you have your own method of evaluation and do not plan to use the quarterly quizzes, please notify Science Partners so your student will not be expected to return them. If you have questions about a quiz, please contact us promptly so we can address any issues that you may have.

Grades / Credit

Science Partners cannot issue credit, but will email home a grade sheet on a quarterly basis. Grades are based on homework assignments, tests, and class preparation (as well as semester projects for biology students). Parents are responsible for applying for credit from their county or umbrella school / private school covering. Science Partners' biology class meets national science standards for Biology 1, Florida Department of Education course number 2000310. With four additional research papers, a student may earn high school credit for Biology 1 Honors – 2000320. High school biology and biology honors have been approved by Circle Christian School, Orlando for credit.

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Class Information



Overview

Involvement in discussions, hands-on lab activities, class participation, and weekly reading assignments (grades 5 and above) will hopefully spark a lifelong interest in learning about the natural world in order to see the “handprint” of our Creator. Ultimately, it is our desire for every student to ask not only, “How and why was the universe made?”, but more importantly, “Why was I made?”

Every other year, in **Track A – Life and Biological Sciences**, students in grades 3-8 will cover subjects that explore God’s world and also His natural laws that apply to living things on earth at their grade level. Specific topics are listed below.

Grades 3-4 / General Life Science: Classifying Organisms, Exploring a Pond Community, Microscopes / Micro-organisms, Food Chain / Energy Pyramid, Population Changes, Living / Non-Living Factors, Plants, Seeds, Vegetative Reproduction, Animal Habitats, How Animals Eat, Animal Behavior and Defense, Dinosaurs, the Cell, Senses, Bones, Muscles, Heart, Lungs, Digestion, Nerves, and more.

Grades 5-6 / Life Science and Ecology: Taxonomy, Vertebrates, Invertebrates, Forest Communities, Ecology, Biomes, Biotic / Abiotic Factors, Balance of Nature, Cycles, Energy Flow, Caring for the Earth, and more.

Grades 7-8 / Life Science: Taxonomy, Structure and Activity of Cells, Genetics, Biblical Creationism, Evolution Theories, Plants, Animals - Invertebrates and Vertebrates, Animal Behavior and Reproduction, Ecosystems, Relationships in Nature, Species, Biomes, Natural Resources, Humans, and more.

Grades 9-12 / Biology (offered each year): Scientific Method, Evolution vs. Creationism, Taxonomy, Biochemistry, Botany, Zoology, Human Anatomy, Ecology, and Microbiology.

Goals

- To develop critical thinking skills.
- To obtain knowledge in the Earth, Physical, or Biological Sciences.
- To participate in active learning experiences with other students to help build science process skills.
- To clarify God’s involvement in Creation versus other worldviews regarding the origin of the Universe.

Attendance / Punctuality

It is imperative that every student be in attendance and on time for every class. Please plan to arrive five to ten minutes before class begins. Our time is limited, and we will use all of it. Science classes are very *lab-oriented* and *hands-on*. Consequently, they are very hard to make up if a student is absent or late. Students usually work in lab teams, and each student’s presence or absence affects his or her team and ultimately the entire class. Scientists do not live or work in a vacuum. They are part of a team, each contributing his or her part to the whole.

Continued absences and/or tardiness may signify that the family commitment to the science class is not a priority at this time. It teaches a child that commitment and punctuality are not important character traits. It also shows disrespect for the teacher who has prepared for the class and for the other students who are on time and ready to begin. Habitual absences and/or tardiness may result in a student being withdrawn from class.

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Class Information (continued)



Preparation / Homework:

Students work on lab sheets during class time. At home, they must finish lab sheets and any other assignments. Students in grades 5 and up have a weekly reading assignment to be completed **before** the class.

Parents need to review class work, make sure assignments are completed for the next class, check to see that the student brings all supplies to every class, and encourage each student to do his or her best.

Email: Science Partners uses email for much of the communication between class and home. **Each family must have an active email account that will accept attachments.** It is imperative that you check your email frequently for information on assignments as well as reminders and notices about classes, field trips, presentations, etc.

Class Rules: The rules listed below are based on principles that are critical in conducting a proper, safe, successful, and fun science experience. Every student is expected to live by them during the school year. Each of these principles has a specific purpose and is non-negotiable. Rules will be explained to students in detail at the first class.

SCIENCE CLASS RULES:

- ✓ Arrive five to ten minutes before class begins.
- ✓ Cell phones must be turned off during class.
- ✓ Raise your hand to speak.
- ✓ Ask before you move about the room.
- ✓ Do not eat or drink anything in class (including water) unless instructed by the teacher.
- ✓ Dress appropriately (see Dress Code on page 8).
- ✓ Respect each other's space.
- ✓ Bring ALL required science supplies to EVERY class.

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Calendar, Make-Up Classes



2017-18 Important Dates for Weekly / Tuesday Science Classes

August 7 (Monday)	Weekly Science Class Orientation - 6:00 PM, WaterStone Church, 900 North Street, Longwood 32750
August 15	First Day of Weekly / Tuesday Science Classes.
October 17	Fall Break.
November 21	Thanksgiving Break.
December 12	Last Classes before Christmas Break; Creation Resources Sale.
December 19	Christmas Break.
December 26	Christmas Break.
January 2	Christmas Break.
January 9	Classes Resume.
March 20	Spring Break
April 17	Testing Break
May 8	Last Day of Weekly / Tuesday Classes; Creation Resources Sale.

Make-Up Classes

On the rare occasion that a student is absent from a regularly scheduled class, the student will receive handouts missed at the next regular class or handouts may be emailed home.

If a student is absent **due to illness or family emergency** and feels the need for further instruction on a class missed, a parent may contact Mr. Clifton to arrange a make-up class on an individual basis.

Mr. Clifton is unable to meet with students who are absent for any reason other than illness or family emergency. Science classes are set up to coordinate with other homeschool groups' schedules and minimize conflicts as much as possible. Many holiday opportunities are provided in the science class schedule for family travel. Students have a week off for Fall Break, a week for Thanksgiving Break, three weeks for Christmas Break, a week for Spring Break, and another week for testing. Also, since the class meets on Tuesdays, families have the opportunity to plan long-weekend trips that do not interfere with the class. So, if a student misses science class for any reason other than illness or family emergency, he or she will receive handouts missed. The student needs to keep up with labs and reading assignments.

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Tuesday Classes in Longwood



Weekly / Tuesday Classes in Longwood

Classes meet at WaterStone Church in Longwood on Tuesdays. There are 32 classes that meet from **August 15 – May 8**. Grades 3-8 meet for 1½ hours, and biology meets for two hours. Textbooks are provided for students in grades 5-12 to use during the year. **Orientation** will be at WaterStone Church on **Monday, August 7, at 6:00 PM**.

Tuesday Class Schedule

Grades 7-8: Life Science	8:00 - 9:30 AM
Grades 9-12: Biology	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Grades 5-6: Life Science / Ecology	12:30 - 2:00 PM
Grades 3-4: General Life Science	2:30 - 4:00 PM

Directions to WaterStone Church, 900 North Street, Longwood, FL 32750

1. **From Orlando area** take Interstate 4 east to Exit 92 / Hwy. 436.

At the end of the exit ramp, turn right / east onto Hwy. 436.

Just past the Altamonte Mall, turn left / north onto Palm Springs Drive.

Go approximately two miles (past Altamonte Elementary School on right).

Turn right / east onto North Street (at traffic light).

The church is about one mile east on North Street on the left past a pond.

(*See directions to classroom below.)

2. **From Sanford, Lake Mary, Deltona area**, take Interstate 4 west to Exit 94 / Hwy. 434.

At the end of the exit ramp, turn left / east onto Hwy. 434.

Turn right / south onto Palm Springs Drive. Go less than a mile to North Street.

Turn left / east onto North Street (at traffic light).

The church is about one mile east on North Street on the left past a pond.

(*See directions to classroom below.)

3. **From Oviedo area**, take Hwy. 434 into Longwood.

Turn left / south onto Hwy. 427 / Ronald Regan Boulevard.

Turn right / west onto North Street (at traffic light). Cross railroad tracks. Church is on right.

***Directions to Classroom:** When you drive onto the church property, there is a parking lot on the left / west side of the church. Park there and take the sidewalk that runs behind the church building. It will go to the opposite / east end of the building where you enter a hallway through double doors. The second room on the left is the science classroom. There will be a sign on the door. A homeschool “study hall” room is provided (see below).

Please Note WaterStone Church Policies:

1. Children must be under adult supervision at all times when using the study hall.
2. The playground is reserved for Head-Start students only.
3. For safety reasons, children may not play outside on playground, in parking lots, or in driveways.

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Uniform



Dress Code

In order to dress for *modesty, mobility, and safety*, science students are required to wear a uniform that consists of:

1. **Shirt:** Navy golf / polo type shirt. A *Science Partners'* logo shirt from Lands' End is **optional**. Ordering instructions are below. **Check with Science Partners before you order to see if any FREE used Science Partners shirts are available.**
2. **Pants:** Khaki / tan / beige colored shorts or long pants (no "hip-huggers" or "low riders"). Shorts must come close to the knee. Girls may also wear Capri pants (no skirts, skorts, culottes, dresses or jumpers). **Pants may be purchased from Lands' End, but that is not required.** Many local stores have "uniform" lines of clothing where you may purchase pants. Please make sure they are "plain" with no extra buckles, bows, etc.
3. **Shoes:** Lace up, closed toe, and closed heel shoes. No sandals, flip flops, or skate shoes.
4. **Special Note:** Students may not wear visible tattoos or body piercings (with the exception of girls' ear lobes).

Lands' End Ordering Instructions - Optional

Science Partners' Preferred School Number: 900107400; Logo Number: 0613741K;
Logo Description: School Name with Animals; Logo Application Price is: \$5.50

You may order from Lands' End two ways:

1. For phone orders, please call **1-800-469-2222** and mention Science Partners' Preferred School and Logo numbers listed above.
2. For online orders, go to www.landsend.com/school. Select item, color and size, then enter your Preferred School number in the box labeled "Preferred School Program." After your Preferred School number has been entered, may select your logo from the drop-down menu that appears.

If you are asked to fill in a city for Science Partners, it is Longwood (not Orlando).

UNIFORM CHOICES

Optional - Classic Navy Shirt with logo (You may choose Interlock or Mesh.)

For Boys or Girls: Co-ed – Interlock Polo or Mesh Polo, short sleeve or long sleeve

For Girls Only: Feminine Fit Interlock Polo or Mesh Polo, short sleeve or long sleeve

Optional - Khaki Shorts or Pants (You may purchase locally. Lands' End not required.)

Boys/Men shorts – cargo

Boys/Men shorts – pleated front chino

Boys pants – reinforced knee chino

Boys/Men pants – pleated front chino

Boys/Men pants – plain front chino

Boys/Men pants –cargo

Girls/Women shorts – cargo

Girls/Women shorts – pleated front chino

Girls/Women pants – crop chino ("Capri")

Girls/Women pants – pleated front chino

Girls/Women pants – plain front chino

Girls/Women pants –cargo

Optional - Classic Navy Sweatshirt with logo - Co-ed zip-front hooded sweat shirt.

Optional - Classic Navy Sweater with logo - Co-ed Drifter button-front or zip-front cardigan.

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Registration Fee & Tuition Information



Registration Fee

The registration fee for weekly science classes is \$150 for a single student or \$125 each for students in families with two or more enrolling (for example, two siblings would be \$125 each or \$250 total; three siblings would be \$125 each or \$375 total). This fee covers lab equipment, supplies, and use of textbook for grades 5-12. **Books are to be returned at the end of the school year.**

Tuition

Monthly tuition is due on the 1st day of each month for ten months, August through May, and is considered late after the 10th. Please make your check or money order payable to **Science Partners**. Tuition may be turned in during class or mailed to *Science Partners*, 343 Allison Avenue, Longwood, FL 32750.

Grades 3-8: Tuition is \$750 per year per student or \$75 per month for ten months. **You may save \$25 by making a single tuition payment of \$725 by the first class.** Please note that monthly tuition is not based on how many times a class meets during a single month. It is based on the total year's cost divided by 10 payments.

Grades 9-12: Tuition is \$850 per year per student or \$85 per month for ten months. **You may save \$25 by making a single tuition payment of \$825 by the first class.** Please note that monthly tuition is not based on how many times a class meets during a single month. It is based on the total year's cost divided by 10 payments.

Tuition Late Fee

A \$5 per student late fee is due for each monthly tuition payment not made on or before the 10th of the month (August through May).

Cash Payments

If you pay by cash, please place your payment in an envelope, seal it carefully, and **clearly indicate the student's name and what the payment covers on the outside of the envelope.** Science Partners will send an email confirmation for cash received.

Check or Money Order Payments

If you pay by check or money order, please make your payment payable to **Science Partners**. Payments to Science Partners (for registration fees, tuition, late fees, returned check fees, field trip registrations, Creation Resources, etc.) may be combined into one check or money order. Please note on the "Memo" line what items your payment covers.

Returned Checks

A **returned check fee** will be assessed to cover bank charges to Science Partners for each check returned for insufficient funds. **After three checks are returned, your tuition must be paid by cash or money order only.**

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Supply Lists



Supply List for Grades 3-4: Bring Each Week

- Three-ring binder** with filled out cover sheet (page 12) in front sleeve and student calendar in back sleeve. (See notebook instructions on page 11.)
- Zippered pencil pouch** placed in notebook rings to hold the following items:
 - Colored pencils. (We do not use markers or crayons in science class.)
 - Two mechanical pencils and extra lead. (We do not use ink in science class.)
 - Compass (to draw circles).
 - Metric ruler (small to fit in pouch or large to fit in notebook's three rings).
- Lined notebook paper.**
- Three dividers.** Label dividers: (1) *Lab Sheets*, (2) *Quizzes*, and (3) *Misc.*
- Uniform.** (See *Dress Code* information on page 8.)

Supply List for Grades 5-6 and 7-8: Bring Each Week

- Three-ring binder** with filled out cover sheet (page 12) in front sleeve and student calendar in back sleeve. (See notebook instructions on page 11.)
- Zippered pencil pouch** placed in notebook rings to hold the following items:
 - Colored pencils. (We do not use markers or crayons in science class.)
 - Two mechanical pencils and extra lead. (We do not use ink in science class.)
 - Compass (to draw circles).
 - Metric ruler (small to fit in pouch or large to fit in notebook's three rings).
 - Hand-held calculator. (It does not need to be "scientific.")
- Lined notebook paper.**
- Three dividers.** Label dividers: (1) *Lab Sheets*, (2) *Quizzes*, and (3) *Misc.*
- Textbook** is provided by Science Partners. **Cover by first class.**
- Uniform.** (See *Dress Code* information on page 8.)

Supply List for Grades 9-12: Biology: Bring Each Week

- Three-ring binder** with filled out cover sheet (page 12) in front sleeve and student calendar in back sleeve. (See notebook instructions on page 11.)
- Zippered pencil pouch** placed in notebook rings to hold the following items:
 - Colored pencils. (We do not use markers or crayons in science class.)
 - Two mechanical pencils and extra lead. (We do not use ink in science class.)
 - Compass (to draw circles).
 - Metric ruler (small to fit in pouch or large to fit in notebook's three rings).
 - Hand-held calculator. (It does not need to be "scientific.")
- Lined notebook paper.**
- Five dividers.** Label dividers: (1) *Lab Sheets*, (2) *Quizzes*, (3) *Misc*, (4) *Sem. 1 Project*, and (5) *Sem. 2 Project*.
- Textbook** is provided by Science Partners.
- Uniform.** (See *Dress Code* information on page 8.)

SCIENCE PARTNERS

Science Notebook Instructions

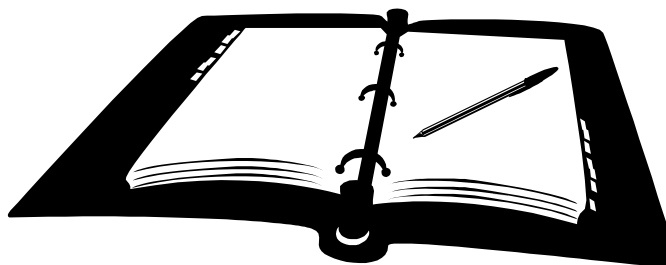


Science Notebook Instructions for ALL GRADES

Please read carefully, even if you have been in science classes before. Make sure you have all the items on the **Supply List** on page 10 for your grade level. Then follow the instructions below to put together a science notebook that will be used during the year to hold labs, quizzes, and other communications from Science Partners. When the notebook is set up correctly, all supplies needed for class are together in one place and ready to go. At the end of the year, the notebook will be the student's complete science portfolio.

1. **Notebook:** Students need a three-ring binder that has clear sleeves on the front and back covers. Any color is fine.
2. **Notebook Front Cover:** The science notebook cover sheet is located on page 12 of this handbook. Print it, fill in lines with student's name and student and/or family phone numbers, and slip it into the front sleeve of your notebook. This is very helpful in locating the owner if a notebook is left behind after class.
3. **Notebook Back Cover:** Each student will receive by email a student calendar for the year. It includes class topics, quiz dates, and holidays, as well as textbook reading assignments for grades 5-12. Place your student calendar in the back sleeve of your notebook so it is easily accessible and doesn't get torn or lost inside. ***It's a good idea to keep a copy of the student calendar at home for parent reference.***
4. **Zippered Pencil Pouch:** The first item inside the notebook is a zippered pencil pouch to hold student's colored pencils, two mechanical pencils, extra pencil lead, and other items required for grade level. (See supply lists on page 10.) ***A separate plastic box with items inside will not work for our purposes.*** The zippered pencil pouch filled with supplies listed must stay in the science notebook and be brought to every class.
5. **Lined Notebook Paper** goes behind zippered pencil pouch.
6. **Dividers – Grades 3-8:** Students in grades 3-8 need three dividers labeled: *Lab Sheets, Quizzes, and Misc.*

Dividers – Biology: Biology students need five dividers labeled: *Lab Sheets, Tests, Misc., Sem. 1 Project, and Sem. 2 Project.*





SCIENCE PARTNERS

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Student's Name: _____

Phone (1): _____

Phone (2): _____