Waldorf Physics Topics Through the Grades

Grade 6

- 1. Philosophy of Science: Observations, Measurements, Data analysis, Accuracy
- 2. Acoustics: Vibration, Pitch, Volume, Tone, Harmonics, Distortion, Speed of sound, Sound in various media
- 3. **Optics:** Darkness and light, Color, After images, Complimentary colors, Shadows, The eye
- 4. Magnetism: Magnetite, Compass
- 5. Electricity: Static electricity, Friction, Resistance and heat

Grade 7

- 1. Philosophy of Science: Scientific method
- 2. **Mechanics:** 6 simple machines, levers, balance, inclined plane, wedge, screw, pulley, force over distance
- 3. Acoustics: Cladni plate, Echoes
- 4. Optics: Shadows, Planes and curves, Illusions, Pin-hole camera
- 5. **Heat:** Conduction, Expansion and thermometers
- 6. Magnetism: The earth's magnetosphere
- 7. **Electricity:** Electric current, Sources of electricity, Electromagnets, Electric appliances

Grade 8

- 1. Philosophy of Science: Scientific thinking and methods, Sources of error
- 2. **Hydrostatics:** Archimedes' Principal, Hydraulic Scales, Cartesian diver, Buoyancy, Stability, Water pumps, Vortices and resistance
- 3. **Meteorology:** Climate and weather, Clouds, Wind, Precipitation, Atmosphere, Global mapping
- 4. Electricity: Motors, Dynamos, Generators

Grade 9: Thermodynamics

- 1. Philosophy of Science: Experimentation, Validity, Repeatability
- 2. **Thermodynamics:** Heat and energy, Heating metals, States of matter, Steam engine, Sterling engine, Internal combustion engine

Grade 10: Mechanics

- 1. Philosophy of Science: Scientific thinking and methods, Peer review and publication
- 2. **Mechanics:** Inertia, Pendulum, Measurement of motion, Mechanical engineering, Bridge building

Organization

Grade 11: Electricity

- 1. **Philosophy of Science:** Scientific observation, Measurements, Data analysis, Accuracy
- 2. **Electricity:** Static electricity, Capacitors, Batteries, Ohm's Law, DC and AC current, Alternators, Power generation and transmission, Electromagnetism, Tesla coil, Telegraph, Telephone, Ben Franklin, Nicola Tesla

Grade 12: Light

- 1. **Philosophy of Science:** SWOT analysis of science and its alternatives, Future perspectives
- 2. **Light:** Electromagnetic spectrum, Reflection, Refraction, Diffraction, Absorption, Mirrors, Snell's Law, Wave-particle duality, Speed of light, Bending light, Relation to sound waves, Rainbows, Visible light, Light spectrum, Theory of Relativity, Quantum Mechanics, Albert Einstein