

What is Physics?

- Physics comes from the Greek word, *physis*, which means nature.
- Physics is a *natural science* and the most basic of all sciences.
- Physics is a special way to look at nature and to study the order and interconnectedness of everything around us!



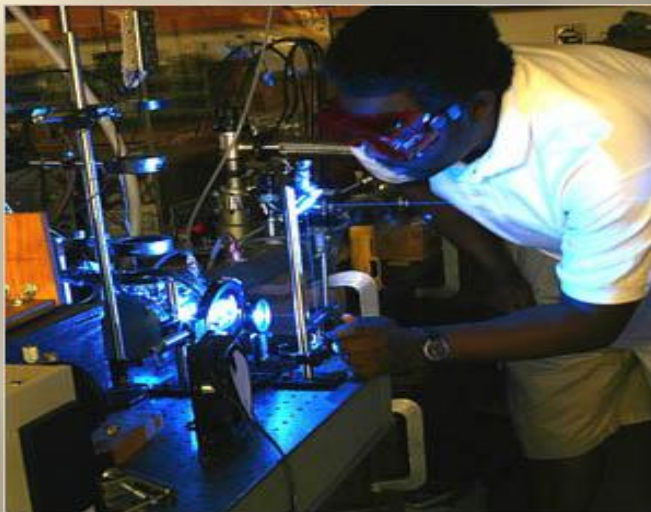
...What is Physics?

- Physics is the study of matter & energy.
- Matter is the stuff in the universe that has mass and volume, like solids, liquids, gasses, and you and me!
- Energy includes motion, heat, light, sound, forces, and elementary particles.
- Physics is responsible for the interpretation of fundamental physical processes which support many other scientific disciplines.



Why should I study physics?

- We are all natural scientists.
- We marvel at the wonders of nature.
- We observe and we collect objects.
- We wonder why things are the way they are and what makes them work.



...Why should I study physics?

- If you are naturally curious and want to learn about the basic principles that underlie nature, and the beauty of the universe, you should study physics.
- Physics uses a mathematical approach to explain these basic principles, so a background in mathematics is important.





Stephan's Quintet
Hubblesite.org/gallery/printshop/