

Curriculum Overview

Grade 8
General Studies

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

Students are exposed to a variety of genres and quality literature as they read several trade books throughout the year in addition to the Literature Anthology. Students learn to cite text evidence, determine theme, compare and contrast a story and video, analyze story elements, and more. Developing a robust vocabulary is encouraged through Vocabulary Workshop activities, and students learn strategies to determine word meaning through context. Units of Study are supplemented by ongoing units of poetry and informational text. The writing curriculum includes three main genres of writing each year, with in depth lessons on the specific areas of focus using mini lessons. An emphasis is placed on developing powerful essays as students are required to write across the curriculum.

STEAM: SCIENCE / TECHNOLOGY / ENGINEERING / ART / MATHEMATICS

Our middle school science curriculum has students learning Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science for a year each. Students have the opportunity to visit our state-of-the art science lab to conduct experiments at various points throughout the year, bringing concepts to life and allowing them to hone their inquiry and develop problem solving skills. In Mathematics, students use EnVision 2.0 (2017 edition), a blended math program that provides the rigor and real-world applications needed to meet state standards. Tracked math classes in eighth grade allow students the option to take Prealgebra or Algebra I, based on ability. Students learn computer coding through an online coding program, and all middle school students receive computer instruction focusing on using Microsoft Office applications as well as Google Apps.



For curriculum-related questions please contact Mrs. Hoberman
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CURRICULUM MAP

General Studies | Grade: 8

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Math: Pre-Algebra	Topic 1: Real Numbers	Topic 1: Real Numbers 8.NS.A	Topic 2: Analyze and Solve Linear Equations	Topic 2: Analyze and Solve Linear Equations 8.EE.C	Topic 3: Use Functions to Model Relationships	Topic 4: Investigate Bivariate Data	Topic 5: Analyze and Solve Systems of Linear Equations	Topic 6: Congruence and Similarity	Topic 7: Understand and Apply the Pythagorean Theorem	Topic 8: Solve Problems Involving Surface Area and Volume
Math: Algebra I	Topic 1: Foundations for Algebra	Topic 2: Solving Equations	Topic 3: Solving Inequalities	Topic 4: An Introduction to Functions	Topic 5: Linear Functions	Topic 6: Systems of Equations and Inequalities	Topic 7: Exponents and Exponential Functions Topic 8: Polynomials and Factoring	Topic 9: Quadratic Functions and Equations	Topic 10: Radical Expressions and Equations Topic 11: Rational Expressions and Functions	Topic 12: Data Analysis and Probability
Literacy	Prentice Hall Literature Anthology: Short Story Selections									
	Unit 1: Launching reading; selections from the anthology; The Gift of the Magi		Unit 2: My Brother Sam is Dead		Unit 3: Book Club	Unit 4: Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl		Unit 5: Research Unit/Self-Study	Unit 7: The Westing Game	
	Various forms of poetry, spelling, and comprehension associated with literature									
Written Expression	Review "Writing Process" Begin journaling	Personal Narrative		Persuasive Essay		Informative Essay		BusinessLetter/Real World Application		
	Language Skills and Grammar Skills Vocabulary Workshop Level C									
Science Fundamentals of Life Science	Studying Science: scientific investigation; branches of natural science, studying life	The Cell: building blocks of life, using a microscope, experiments	DNA and Genetics: Discovering DNA, history of heredity, genes and proteins, experiments		Planet of Protists: plant-like protists, fungus-like protists, experiments	Fungi: role of fungi in the environment, mold and yeast, experiments	Green Giants: solar power, parts of a plant, seeds and fruit, experiments	The Hidden Life of Plants: plants struggle for survival, seedless plants, experiments	Ecology: basics of a biosphere, designer homes, protecting the planet, experiments	
Social Studies	The First Americans Map reading skills		Life in the American Colonies		Creating a Nation		The Civil War		World Wars	