



Curriculum Outline Grade 7

145 North Waiola Avenue
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SOCIAL STUDIES

Students review the founding and early years of the US. In addition, the State of Illinois requires students to pass tests on the US Constitution and the IL Constitution. The textbook series used is *America: History of Our Nation – Civil War to the Present*.

Emphasis is on:

- the United States Constitution
- Illinois Constitution
- the American Civil War
- Reconstruction
- America at the turn of the century

SCIENCE

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. Students identify problems, formulate and test hypotheses and evaluate experimental results. The textbook series used for science instruction is *HMH Science Dimensions*. This series incorporates science and engineering concepts.[STEM]

Emphasis is on:

- space science
 - patterns in the solar system
 - the solar system and universe
- energy and energy transfer
 - energy
 - energy transfer
- chemistry
 - the structures of matter
 - states of matter and changes of state
 - chemical processes and equations
 - the chemistry of materials

MATHEMATICS

Students acquire knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems.

7th Grade Common Core Math

Emphasis is on:

- the number system: adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing integers and rational numbers
- ratios and proportional relationships
- expressions, equations and inequalities
- geometry: circumference, area, and volume
- statistics: random samples and population/analyzing and comparing data
- probability: experimental, theoretical, and simulations

RELIGION

Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in religion class, but in all learning. Students will learn about the Catholic faith through stories, activities, scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection. The text used for instruction is *Finding God*.

Emphasis is on:

We Pray:

- prayer in a variety of forms
- participation in liturgical ministry

We Learn:

- God's Revelation through the Gospels
- principles of Catholic Social Teaching

We Serve:

- active service based on the Social Teachings of the Catholic Church

Service Theme: Human & Civil Rights

On Service Day 7th Grade students promote human and civil rights by feeding the hungry and impoverished at Feed My Starving Children and the SFX Food Pantry.

LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERATURE

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas. The textbook series used for literature instruction is *The Language of Literature*.

READING/LITERATURE

A diverse selection of literature will be used to enhance student development of higher levels of comprehension and inferential thinking. Emphasis is on:

- plot, characterization, setting, point of view & conflicting literature from different eras
- analyzing style & purpose and character & conflict
- understanding the author's purpose in various literary forms
- identifying purpose of figurative language
- applying word analysis & vocabulary skills
- debate & research

WRITING

Students will work through a seven-step writing process to develop and publish several pieces that span several writing genres, including: personal narratives, poetry, letters, literary analyses, creative writing, argumentative/persuasive essays, and research reports in MLA format. The development of each piece sets in motion the goal of producing reflective, creative, critical, and articulate communicators. The textbook series used for grammar & writing instruction is *Voyages in English*.

ART

Students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms.

Emphasis is on:

- using elements and principles of art to express ideas and convey meaning through various media and technology
- demonstrating knowledge and skills to create artworks that are realistic, abstract, functional and decorative
- interpreting artistic products and experiences using appropriate vocabulary
- comparing works of art from different cultures and periods

MUSIC

Students will have the opportunity to participate in music activities and to develop an appreciation for music.

Emphasis is on:

- singing in groups & performance opportunities
- involvement in music ministry
- exploring a variety of musical styles
- understanding tonality through singing and listening activities
- an overview of the history of Jazz, including jazz techniques

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Emphasis is on:

- developing muscle strength, cardio-Respiratory endurance & flexibility
- using rules, offensive & defensive strategies in cooperative sports & games
- demonstrating sportsmanship & safe participation in exercise & games
- applying leadership skills in various games/activities

SPANISH

Students will explore basic concepts of Spanish by listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

Emphasis is on:

- engaging in simple conversations
- describing the personalities of self and others
- describing and inquiring about school, classes, and schedules
- modifying sentences for adjective agreement
- conjugating and using regular and irregular verbs in the present tense
- agreeing in the negative and positive
- using masculine & feminine words
- connecting to the universality of the liturgy

TECHNOLOGY

Each student in grades 4-8 has the privilege of having a school-owned Chromebook assigned to them for their daily use. Technology skills are taught through content areas and use of the devices complements student learning standards and objectives. Additionally, students follow a curriculum which develops digital citizenship skills. As a G-Suite for Education school, our students become proficient in the use of Google Drive: Docs, Sheets & Slides as well as Google Classroom.