



SLCSD Sixth Grade Learning Guide 2020-2021

Language Arts

To be college and career ready, sixth graders focus on applying skills and strategies to read longer and more complex literary and informational texts. Sixth graders sharpen their ability to write and speak more clearly by learning how authors try to influence readers, make their points, and support their arguments with evidence and reasoning. Through reading and discussing, students expand their listening, speaking and writing vocabularies and are able to use new words in their stories, reports and essays. Sixth grade students will:

- Improve language use by recognizing variations from standard English in his or her own and others' writing and speaking.
- Evaluate arguments in written materials or a speech by identifying reasons and evidence.
- Orally present their position and findings to others, putting ideas in sequence and pointing out main ideas and themes.
- Write stories using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-sequenced events.
- Write arguments that use credible sources to provide clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- Conduct short research projects, drawing on several sources to answer a question and sharpen focus.
- Review and paraphrase key ideas from a speaker.

Mathematics

Sixth grade students will engage in a variety of learning activities that develop the understanding, skills and practices needed to use math effectively in school, on the job and in life. Students will increase their ability to articulate their reasoning, use multiple models and strategies to think flexibly about concepts and persevere in solving problems. Students will notice patterns and structures embedded in problems and communicate with others using clear mathematical language. Sixth grade students will:

- Understand the concepts of a ratio and a unit rate to solve problems.
- Connect ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and use concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems.
- Use the meaning of fractions, multiplication, division, and the relationship between multiplication and division to understand and explain why the procedures of dividing fractions makes sense.
- Extend understanding of numbers to include negative rational numbers, particularly negative integers.
- Understand the use of variables in mathematical expressions.
- Write, interpret and use expressions and equations with exponents and variables.
- Develop understanding of statistical thinking.
- Solve geometric problems involving area, volume and surface area.

Science

The sixth-grade SEEd standards provide a framework for student understanding of the cycling of matter and the flow of energy through the study of observable phenomena on Earth. Students will explore the role of energy and gravity in the solar system as they compare the scale and properties of objects in the solar system and model the Sun-Earth-Moon system. These strands also emphasize heat energy as it affects some properties of matter, including states of matter and density. The relationship between heat energy and matter is observable in many phenomena on Earth, such as seasons, the water cycle, weather, and climates. Types of ecosystems on Earth are dependent upon the interaction of organisms with each other and with the physical environment. By researching interactions between the living and nonliving components of ecosystems, students will understand how the flow of energy and cycling of matter affects stability and change within their environment.

Social Studies

Social Studies provides students an opportunity to learn about themselves, their community and the world. As students engage in social studies, they develop civic competence and learn about various cultures, history, geography and economics. Sixth grade students will:

- Understand how ancient civilizations developed and how they contribute to the world.
- Discover the impact of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance on the modern world.
- Examine how revolutions have impacted the modern world.
- Understand current global issues and their rights and responsibilities in the interconnected world.

Digital Learning

In a world where technology is playing an ever-increasing role, it is necessary for students to learn how to access and use technology to accomplish a variety of tasks. Sixth grade students will:

- Use technology tools to access information and to create projects that show the information they have learned.
- Research and evaluate the accuracy, relevance, appropriateness, comprehensiveness and bias of electronic information sources concerning real world problems.
- Exhibit legal and ethical behaviors when using information and technology and discuss the consequences of misuses.
- Use the keyboard efficiently and effectively.
- Use Canvas LMS as a learning tool, submit assignments, and collaborate with teacher and peers.

Fine Arts

The study of dance, music, theatre and visual arts helps students explore realities, relationships, and ideas that cannot be expressed simply in words or numbers. The study of Fine Arts centers on discovering the joy, richness, and depth of the arts through active involvement with the art form and is a critical element of a well-rounded education. Sixth grade students will:

- CREATE by conceptualizing, generating, developing, and organizing artistic ideas and work. Complete and refine dramatic, dance, musical and visual art works.
- PERFORM by analyzing, interpreting, and selecting artistic work for performance. Develop techniques and concepts to refine artistic work and express meaning through presentation.
- RESPOND by perceiving and analyzing artistic work and processes. Interpret intent and meaning and apply criteria for evaluation.
- CONNECT by synthesizing and relating knowledge from personal and collaborative experiences to make and receive art. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.

Healthy Lifestyles and Physical Education

Research shows that healthy, fit kids learn best, and that exercise has a positive impact on brain chemistry and function. Sixth grade students will:

- Demonstrate coping behaviors related to grief, loss and stress.
- Define viruses and how they are transmitted.
- Understand the physical, legal, social and emotional consequences of substance abuse.
- Understand the changes that accompany puberty.
- Describe potential hazards, safety procedures and first aid in a variety of circumstances.
- Analyze food intake and compare Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
- Achieve and maintain health-enhancing levels of physical fitness by participating daily in sustained physical activity.
- Demonstrate movement and sports skills in activities and team games.

Library Media

The school library program is critical to the learning process. In our information-rich world, students must be able to find, evaluate, and use information from a variety of sources. All students need to be able to make informed decisions and be critical consumers of information. They must also have the ability to communicate that information in ethical and appropriate ways. In our school library learning centers, Library Technology Teachers teach the *Utah Core Standards for Library Media* and help students learn to find and read books that they enjoy from a wide range of topics. Sixth grade students will:

- Choose books that support their independent reading interests and discuss connections to their lives.
- Understand plagiarism and learn to cite sources of information appropriately.
- Summarize ideas and research while identifying conflicting information, points of view, and bias.
- Engage independently with information using reading, listening, and viewing strategies guided by questions and prior knowledge.