



Course Guide

MIDDLE SCHOOL
2021-2022

INSPIRING EACH STUDENT EVERY DAY



EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS

Inspiring each student every day

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6th Grade

BLOCK 1

Middle School Language Arts I

English Language Arts

1 credit

Using a motif of Heroes, Helpers, and Hope, students in the Middle School Language Arts I course will acquire the reading, writing, language, and speaking/listening skills necessary for success in college, career, and beyond. Students will become critical readers and thinkers as they delve into fiction and informational texts within the course. They will also learn to effectively write narrative, informational, and argumentative pieces and present their ideas clearly and cohesively.

BLOCK 2

ASSESSMENT-BASED PLACEMENT IN 1 OF THE FOLLOWING

Middle School Grade 6 Mathematics

Mathematics

1 credit

The course is designed to engage students at every turn. Students have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of number manipulation by applying it to real world scenarios. The course is packed with games that reinforce content and let students practice the skills they have learned throughout the course. Tidbits of trivia and activities throughout the course leave students with a smile.

Pre-Algebra

Mathematics (High School Level)

1 credit

Students who love interactive learning will enjoy Pre-Algebra. This hands-on course is full of slideshows, applications, videos, and real-world scenarios. The satisfaction that students gain from truly understanding higher level concepts such as functions and systems of equations encourages excitement and joy for learning. The instruction in this course will focus on three critical areas: (1) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures, through the use of distance, angles, similarity, congruence, and Pythagorean Theorem; (2) using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) formulating expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, solving linear equations, and systems of linear equations.

BLOCK 3

Middle School Comprehensive Science I

Science

1 credit

Middle School Comprehensive Science I is the first in a series of three consecutive science classes. It introduces middle school students to the disciplines of life science, physical science, and earth-space science. In addition, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts are integrated throughout the course. The lessons make real-world connections and require students to apply STEM skills like analysis, problem solving, science knowl-



edge, and engineering practices. Hands-on and virtual laboratory investigations are included throughout the course to provide students opportunities for exploration through scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, and experimental procedures. By the end of the course, students will be practicing, experimenting, thinking, and talking like a scientist!

BLOCK 4

MPCC Northern Lights

Social Studies

1 credit

This social studies course centers on the amazing state of Minnesota. We use our great state to teach history, civics, economics, geography, and help instill pride in being Minnesota citizens. As students deepen their understanding of Minnesota History, there are a variety of opportunities to deepen understanding of the Anishinaabe and Dakota Nations. Sixth grade standards include comparing and contrasting the lives the Anishinaabe and Dakota People before and after 1800; understanding sovereignty and treaty rights; and the causes and effects of the 1862 war between the Dakota people and the European colonists.

BLOCK 5

Middle School Fitness Grade 6

Health and Physical Education

0.5 credit

Students who want to be fit but don't know where to start are invited to join a diverse group of virtual classmates who help with exploring and understanding fitness and health. With the support of these virtual friends, students determine current personal fitness levels and learn to improve those levels. Students also learn safety rules for exercise, how to create equipment from household items, how different activities target different body parts, how to set and reach a goal, and how to be good sports. Students keep a log of physical fitness activities while exploring topics that include diversity in sports, nutrition, peer pressure, and making good choices. Coach Cardio help measure growing fitness levels while students complete their projects. Each PE project leads to improved student understanding of personal skills and the environments in which activities are played.

BLOCK 6

Vocal or Instrumental Techniques I

Music

1 credit

Students receive a structured program of training in a variety solo repertoire, music theory, and instrumental or vocal pedagogy. Students will experience a variety of historical styles and genres.

BLOCK 7

Middle School Visual Arts I

Electives

0.5 credit

This course enables students to develop skills in art and does not require any previous art experience. Students will have the opportunity to play with different media, try different techniques and learn skills that will allow them to participate in future art classes. This class will promote creativity, idea generation, and artistic experiences.



BLOCK 8

EDL - Middle School Career Exploration I

Electives

1 credit

How many times have you heard, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" When you close your eyes and picture yourself in the future, what do you see? Police officer? Doctor? Farmer? Pilot? Teacher? Really, the possibilities are endless. And with so many careers to pick from, it can be confusing knowing where to start your search. In Middle School Career Exploration, you will have the chance to explore more than 15 different career areas including energy fields, human resources, the law, transportation, and more. Discover which careers you might enjoy the most and which ones you'll be best at!



7th Grade

BLOCK 1

Middle School Language Arts II

English Language Arts
1 credit

Using a motif of Mystery, Monsters, and Mayhem, students in the Middle School Language Arts II course will acquire the reading, writing, language, and speaking/listening skills necessary for success in college, career, and beyond. Students will become critical readers and thinkers as they delve into fiction and informational texts within the course. They will also learn to effectively write narrative, informational, and argumentative pieces and present their ideas clearly and cohesively.

BLOCK 2

ASSESSMENT-BASED PLACEMENT IN 1 OF THE FOLLOWING

Middle School Grade 7 Mathematics

Mathematics
1 credit

This course is designed to expand student knowledge about the transformation of shapes by sliding, flipping, rotating, and enlarging them on a coordinate plane. This course gives students the opportunity to create, investigate, and demonstrate knowledge at both intermediate and advanced levels. Students will be amazed with the skills that they accumulate while completing this course. This course is so full of animations, applications, videos, games, and real-world scenarios, students may think it is the latest video game.

Pre-Algebra

Mathematics (High School Level)
1 credit

Students who love interactive learning will enjoy Pre-Algebra. This hands-on course is full of slideshows, applications, videos, and real-world scenarios. The satisfaction that students gain from truly understanding higher level concepts such as functions and systems of equations encourages excitement and joy for learning. The instruction in this course will focus on three critical areas: (1) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures, through the use of distance, angles, similarity, congruence, and Pythagorean Theorem; (2) using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) formulating expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, solving linear equations, and systems of linear equations.

Algebra I

Mathematics (High School Level)
1 credit

Algebra I is the foundation—the skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future high school math courses. The material covered in this course is important, but everyone can do it. Anyone can have a good time solving the hundreds of real-world problems algebra can help answer. Each module in this course is presented in a step-by-step way right on the computer screen. Hands-on labs make the numbers, graphs, and equations more real. The content in this course is



tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the skills and strategies to solve all kinds of mathematical problems.

BLOCK 3

Middle School Comprehensive Science II

Science
1 credit

Middle School Comprehensive Science II is a comprehensive science including the disciplines of life science, physical science, and earth space science in addition to, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) concepts. The course is designed for middle school students. The lessons provide real world connections through the application of STEM problem solving, science knowledge and engineering practices. Laboratory investigations are included throughout the course and provide students opportunities for exploration through scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, and experimental procedures.

BLOCK 4

Middle School US History

Social Studies
1 credit

Learning about history allows people to see how far we have come and what awaits us on our path to the future. In this course, students will explore the history of the United States and analyze the cause and effect in historical events. They will investigate history by using the tools of a historian to examine the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events that influenced the development of the United States. Students will imagine what it was like to live in the past by reading the stories from the people who experienced it. This course begins with the engaging stories of what brought the earliest American colonists to the New World and ends with the struggles to repair the United States following the Civil War. Engaging in this study allows students to recognize the themes of history that span across centuries and leads to a greater appreciation of the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history.

BLOCK 5

Middle School Comprehensive PE Grade 7

Health and Physical Education

0.5 credit

Each community is full of fitness opportunities that enable students to achieve new levels of fitness through sports, dance, aquatics, and more! This course provides a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values students need to develop a physically active lifestyle. A friendly cast of course characters helps guide and enhance each student's experience. Knowledge about safety rules for exercise, how to improve sport skills, how different activities target different body parts, and how to set and a goal are all part of student learning and participation. Activity choices are plentiful, leading to a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

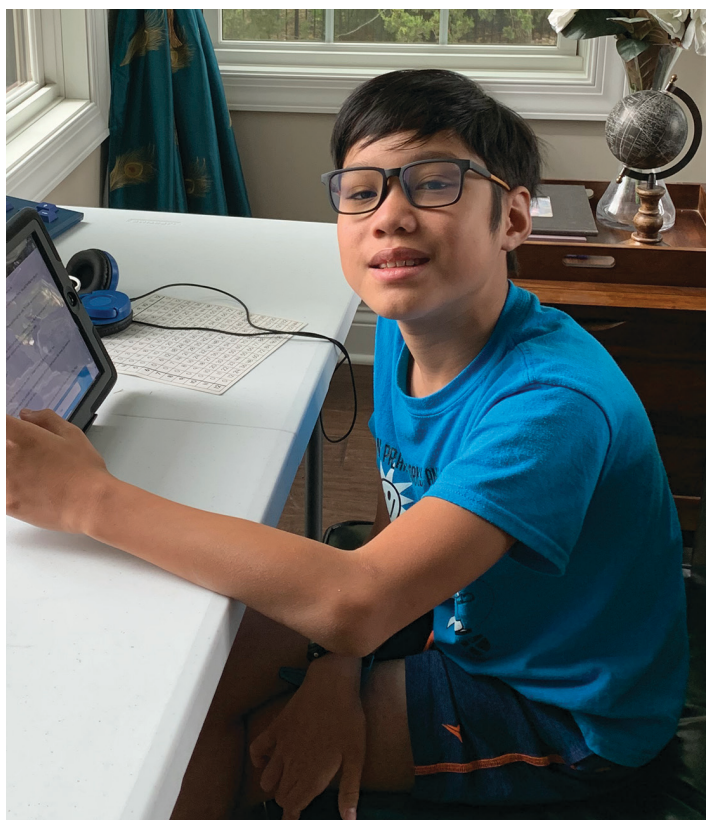
BLOCK 6

Vocal or Instrumental Techniques II

Music

1 credit

Students receive a structured program of training in a variety solo repertoire, music theory, and instrumental or vocal pedagogy. Students will experience a variety of historical styles and genres.



BLOCK 7

EDL - Middle School Digital Art and Design

Electives

0.5 credit

There are so many different types of art in this world—fine art, classical art, visual art—but the impact of digital art and design is all around us, often in ways that you probably aren't even aware of! After taking Digital Art and Design, you'll enjoy a deeper understanding and appreciation for all things digital as you explore this special genre of art found in everything from advertising to animation to photography and beyond. In this course, you'll learn about the evolution of art, the basic principles of art and design, and the role of art in politics and society. Additionally, you will actually create your own digital art and make it come alive. Give your creative side a boost with this Digital Art and Design course!

BLOCK 8

CHOOSE 1 OPTION

EDL - Middle School Game Design 1a: Introduction

Electives

0.5 credit

We all love to play video games – but have you ever wanted to build your own? If you are interested in a career in technology but also want a creative outlet, Game Design might be the field for you. Learn how to build a game from the ground up in Middle School Game Design 1, an interactive and hands-on course that will teach you all the ins and outs of making your own game. You will learn the importance of game structure and discover what makes a game fun, challenging, and interesting to players just like you. You will also have the opportunity to explore the design and creative process involved in game creation, learn block-based programs, and experiment with character and story development. As a bonus, you will leave the course with a digital portfolio of everything you created in class. A creative outlet, Game Design might be the field for you. Learn how to build a game from the ground up in Middle School.

Middle School Coding Fundamentals

Electives

0.5 credit

Learn the basic building blocks of coding using HTML to create a web page and use the in-course Python Guided Activity to try your hand at programming with Python. You'll learn how to use functions and loops to write small programs and create basic graphics. In addition, you will learn about career opportunities in the coding field. This course will give you the experience you need to begin coding on your own, and it will get you ready to take more advanced coding courses in the future! This course provides middle school elective credit.

8th Grade

BLOCK 1

Middle School Language Arts III

English Language Arts

1 credit

Using a motif of Innovation, Imagination, and Invention, students in the Middle School Language Arts III course will acquire the reading, writing, language, and speaking/listening skills necessary for success in college, career, and beyond. Students will become critical readers and thinkers as they delve into fiction and informational texts within the course. They will also learn to effectively write narrative, informational, and argumentative pieces and present their ideas clearly and cohesively.

BLOCK 2

ASSESSMENT-BASED PLACEMENT IN 1 OF THE FOLLOWING

Algebra I

Mathematics (High School Level)

1 credit

Algebra I is the foundation—the skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future high school math courses. The material covered in this course is important, but everyone can do it. Anyone can have a good time solving the hundreds of real-world problems algebra can help answer. Each module in this course is presented in a step-by-step way right on the computer screen. Hands-on labs make the numbers, graphs, and equations more real. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the skills and strategies to solve all kinds of mathematical problems.

Geometry / Honors

Mathematics (High School Level)

1 credit

Geometry is everywhere, not just in pyramids. Engineers use geometry to build highways and bridges. Artists use geometry to create perspective in their paintings, and mapmakers help travelers find things using the points located on a geometric grid. Throughout this course, students travel a mathematical highway illuminated by spatial relationships, reasoning, connections, and problem solving.

BLOCK 3

Middle School Comprehensive Science III

Science

1 credit

Prepare for high school science courses with this introduction of new topics and review of science basics. You will learn more about the nature of science, Earth and space science, properties of matter, changes in matter, matter and energy, and energy flow.



BLOCK 4

Middle School World History II

Social Studies

1 credit

Somebody discovered the wheel. Somebody discovered written communication. Somebody even figured out how to count to ten. From the ancient river civilizations to China and its ancient dynasties, different civilizations left their mark on history. They also left their mark on how we live today. In this course, students join travel agent Mr. Lightfoot to travel back in time digging out the past of these ancient civilizations. In ancient Egypt students visit the pyramids and find out the secrets of preserving mummies. They see how the Mayans developed astronomy to a precise science. They even investigate the difference between the Athenians and the Spartans. Students will journey through India discovering their contributions to medicine, moving on to Africa to follow the rise and fall of the ancient east African kingdoms of Kush and Axum. Throughout the centuries, and still today, our world is made up of dozens of different cultures. They all are different, and they all have made big contributions to what we know and who we are.



BLOCK 5

Middle School Comprehensive PE Grade 8

Health and Physical Education
0.5 credit

Team sports, extreme sports, and outdoor sports are among the types of activities students learn about and participate in during this course! This interactive, highly animated course helps students learn safety rules for exercise, how to improve skills, and how to establish and accomplish goals. It also provides an overview of many dual, team, extreme, and outdoor sports.

BLOCK 6

Vocal or Instrumental Techniques III

Music
1 credit

Students receive a structured program of training in a variety solo repertoire, music theory, and instrumental or vocal pedagogy. Students will experience a variety of historical styles and genres.

BLOCK 7

EDL - Middle School Creative Photography I

Electives
1 credit

Develop your photography knowledge, including the basics of lighting, shutter speed, and composition. Gain an understanding of professional photography, learn what creates an eye-catching photo, and build a portfolio of images.

BLOCK 8

CHOOSE 1 OPTION

Spanish I

World Languages (High School Level)
1 credit

Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Spanish language and the richness of the diverse cultures of the people who speak it. Continue learning grammar and vocabulary skills to help build basic fluency and language proficiency while exploring more of the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

French I

World Languages (High School Level)
1 credit

Salut! Get set for some more adventure! In French 1, students are immersed in the French language and culture. This course is full of engaging and interactive videos, dialogues, presentations, self-checks, and much more! The purpose of this course is to further develop the French communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. In French 2, students will broaden their French vocabulary and knowledge of grammar. Students will also experience the beauty and expressiveness of a language that is shared by different people and cultures throughout the world.

Chinese I

World Languages (High School Level)
1 credit

Students join various native speakers of Mandarin Chinese as they give a lively introduction to the language and its rich culture. Set in their everyday environment, the native speakers take students through different daily scenarios and give them the necessary skills to read, write, and speak Chinese. In this course, students learn the basic Chinese language. At the very beginning, the course starts by introducing students to a general knowledge of Pinyin, Mandarin Chinese, Chinese dialects, and Chinese characters. After one semester, students will be able to engage in conversation in Chinese including greeting people, introducing themselves to others, and exchanging basic information with others. Students learn to count from 1 to 1000 and make simple sentences in both spoken and written Chinese. They also learn 160 "magical" Chinese characters and use them on a variety of topics. As students walk through the units step by step, they get to know not only the language itself, but also the culture in which the language takes place and keeps developing.