

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR SIXTH GRADE

Language Arts

Reading Standards for Literature

Key Ideas and Details

- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.

Craft and Structure

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
- Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.
- Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.

Knowledge and Ideas

- Compare and contrast the experience of reading a story, drama, or poem to listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text, including contrasting what they "see" and "hear" when reading the text to what they perceive when they listen or watch.
- Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres (e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories) in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics

Text Complexity

- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6–8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Reading Standards for Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details

- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).

Craft and Structure

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.
- Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.
- Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

Knowledge and Ideas

- Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
- Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
- Compare and contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another (e.g., a memoir written by and a biography on the same person).

Text Complexity

- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6–8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

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Writing

Text Types and Purposes

- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

Production and Distribution of Writing

- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single sitting.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
- Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Range of Writing

- Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
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Language

Conventions of Standard English

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Knowledge of Language

- Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grade 6 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

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Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 6 topics, texts, and issues*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.
- Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.

Knowledge and Ideas

- Present claims and findings (e.g., argument, narrative, informative, response to literature presentations), sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details and nonverbal elements to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
 - Include multimedia components (e.g., graphics, images, music, sound) and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.
 - Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
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Mathematics

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems.

The Number System

- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions.
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples.
- Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers.

Expressions and Equations

- Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions.
- Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities.
- Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables.

Geometry

- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

Statistics and Probability

- Develop understanding of statistical variability.
- Summarize and describe distributions.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR SIXTH GRADE

Science

Key Ideas and Details

- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
- Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.

Craft and Structure

- Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to *grades 6–8 texts and topics*.
- Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.
- Analyze the author’s purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.

Knowledge and Ideas

- Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).
- Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.
- Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.

Text Complexity

- By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Plate Tectonics and Earth Structure

- Students analyze the fit of continents, the location of earthquakes, volcanoes, and mid-ocean ridges and the distribution of fossils, rock types and ancient climatic zones as evidence of plate tectonics.

Shaping Earth’s Surface

- Students investigate how Earth’s topography is reshaped by the weathering of rock and soil and the transportation and deposition of sediment.

Heat

- Students investigate how heat moves in a predictable flow from warmer objects to cooler objects until all the objects are the same temperature.

Energy in the Earth System

- Students investigate how convection currents distribute heat within the atmosphere and oceans which results in changes in weather.

Ecology

- Students examine food webs in which organisms and ecosystems exchange energy and nutrients among themselves and with the environment.

Resources

- Students compare and contrast different energy resources and classify them as renewable or nonrenewable.

Investigation and Experimentation

- Students will use and apply scientific processes in order to develop a hypothesis, conduct experiments, gather data, and examine evidence in order to draw supportive conclusions.

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Social Science

Key Ideas and Details

- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- Identify key steps in a text’s description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).

Text Complexity

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
- Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
- Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author’s point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).

Knowledge and Ideas

- Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
- Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
- Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

Craft and Structure

- By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
- Students will understand how geography affects ancient civilizations.
- Students will understand how government affects ancient civilizations.
- Students will understand how culture affects ancient civilizations.
- Students will interpret historical information through the application of essential skills.

Physical Education

- Demonstrate motor skills and movement patterns in many movement activities.
- Demonstrate knowledge of movement concepts, principles and strategies of physical activities.
- Demonstrate and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness to perform many movement activities.
- Demonstrate knowledge of fitness concepts, principles and strategies to perform many movement activities.
- Demonstrate responsible personal and social behavior during many movement activities.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR SIXTH GRADE

Exploratory Wheel

Students are enrolled in an exploratory wheel or an elective for one period of the day. Students enrolled in the exploratory wheel, participate in a new class each trimester. These classes are visual and performing arts, life skills, and technology/communications. Students may participate in AVID or an intervention class in-lieu of one or more of the three exploratory wheel classes. Examples of intervention classes include Shadow Math and Reading Resource.

In **Visual Arts**, students learn and apply art skills, study artists and art periods, and learn art vocabulary. **Performing Arts** include pantomime, history of theater, Reader's Theater, radio drama and a production. In **Music**, students learn musical rhythms, about types of music, and basic keyboarding skills.

In **Life Skills**, students begin to study physical, intellectual, emotional, and social health. Students learn about multiple intelligences, decision-making, study skills, drug and alcohol prevention, and bullying prevention.

In **Technology and Communications**, students use hardware and software for communication, learn technology tools, and improve keyboarding skills.

AVID

The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program is offered at selected grade levels. The program supports students in developing the skills needed to go to college. Through AVID, students receive tutoring and learn study skills and habits for success. Students must interview and show a commitment to work hard to be accepted into the class. Students enrolled in AVID are encouraged to continue in AVID through high school.

SHADOW MATH

Shadow math is a second math class which gives students more time to master grade level math standards. In shadow math students practice prior math skills to ensure a strong base of understanding, are pre-taught new concepts that will be taught in regular math class. Shadow math helps students to be prepared and successful in math.

BAND

In band, students learn music theory and technique. Students rehearse pieces and perform throughout the year. Students compete in several festivals and are encouraged to audition for the Capitol Section Honor Band. Beginning Band is offered in 6th grade, Concert and Jazz Band is offered in 7th and 8th grades. Students can learn to play an instrument.

Artistic Perception

- Read and Notate Beginning Band Music

Creative Expression

- Apply Instrumental Skills

Aesthetic Valuing

- Evaluate Individual and Group Performances

Extracurricular Opportunities

Students are offered many extra-curricular activities at each middle school. For more information contact your child's school office (Antelope Crossing Middle School at 745-2100, Creekview Ranch School at 770-8845 and Silverado Middle School at 780-2620). These activities include drama, yearbook, athletics, and clubs.

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Honors Pathway Courses

Students who qualify for the Honors Pathway learn the state approved grade level standards. However, the pace, depth and rigor is noticeably increased so that students can achieve at their level of skill and understanding. Honors courses are offered in Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies.

Specifically in the Mathematics courses, grade level content is compacted for acceleration as follows.

- **6th grade** – All 6th grade math content and a portion of 7th grade
- **7th grade** – The remaining 7th grade content and all of 8th grade
- **8th grade** – Integrated Math I equivalent to the 9th grade high school course

6th Grade Mathematics

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems.

The Number System

- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions.
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples.
- Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers.

Expressions and Equations

- Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions.
- Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities.
- Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables.

Geometry

- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

Statistics and Probability

- Develop understanding of statistical variability.
- Summarize and describe distributions.

7th Grade Mathematics

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems.

The Number System

- Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers.

Expressions and Equations

- Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions.
- Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.

Geometry

- Draw, construct and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them.
- Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume.

Statistics and Probability

- Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population.
- Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations.
- Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR SIXTH GRADE

Superintendent: Brad Tooker

Board of Education:

Diane Howe

Scott Otsuka

Tracy Pittman

Jeff Randall

Bill Schuetz

Resources:

Additional District Information: www.drycreek.k12.ca.us

By working together, schools and parents create the maximum opportunity for student success.