

Tres Volcanes Community Collaborative School

Course Catalog

6th grade

Required Courses

Language Arts

Mathematics

Social Studies

Science

PE

Electives: 1 full-year Elective

- Elective Wheel (Exploratory AVID Exploratory Drama, Exploratory Leadership, Exploratory Art)
- Band
- Choir
- Navajo/Dine
- Orchestra

6th Grade Language Arts-Full Year

The 6th language arts program offers a variety of standards-based learning experiences. The program is based on sixth grade Language Arts Common Core State Standards. These standards offer a focus for instruction to ensure an adequate exposure to a range of texts and tasks. Rigor is infused through reading and studying the components of literature with increasingly complex text, both fiction and nonfiction. Students will improve their skills in English grammar, writing, vocabulary development and reading strategies, along with speaking and listening skills. Writing a correct sentence, organizing and expressing ideas clearly in all genres of writing are emphasized. This course is intended to help acclimate all sixth graders to the high academic expectations of the language arts programs at Tres Volcanes CCS.

- **Variations of Language Arts**

- **Language Arts/ELD** - This class is aligned with the general education 6th grade curriculum; however, English Language Learners are supported with WIDA strategies and the English Language Development course. These strategies will empower the students through differentiated instructional methods.
- **Gifted Language Arts**- Students with an IEP for gifted may be enrolled in this class.
- **Language Arts – Special Education** – Students with Language Arts identified needs in their IEP with goal in Language Arts may be enrolled in this class.

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6th Grade Math-Full Year

This course is designed to provide a strong mathematical foundation as students transition from the concrete world of elementary mathematics to the more abstract understandings needed for algebra. There is a strong focus on developing problem-solving skills and strategies, as well as the ability to effectively communicate their mathematical thinking. In addition to learning arithmetic concepts and computational skills in ratios, fractions and decimals, students will use estimation, mental computation and applications of geometry and measurement. The course also incorporates an introduction to arithmetic operations with integers and an introduction to solving simple linear equations and inequalities.

Variations of Math

- **Accelerated Math** - This course is an alternative to regular sixth grade mathematics. It is designed for students capable of investigating mathematics in a challenging, in-depth fashion. The material addressed in this course is fast-paced, covering both 6th and 7th grade standards in a single year-long course. It is designed to prepare students for the pre-algebra curriculum in the 7th grade accelerated math class.

Selection Process

Student must have a winter iReady score of 498 or above and a Grade 4 PARCC score of 4 or 5 in the Math section. There must be current teacher recommendation and an “A” or 3 or 4 in 5th grade math.

Required: Parent permission and current teacher recommendation/signature

Students must maintain an above average grade throughout the course.

Any student who has below an 80% average at the end of the 1st 9 weeks will be placed on probation. If a student on probation has below an 80% at the close of a semester, he/she will be transferred to a regular math class.

Semester averages will be determined by the average of the first and second nine-weeks’ grades.

- **Gifted Math** - Students with an IEP for gifted may be enrolled in this class
- **Math – Special Education** – Students with and IEP with goal in Language Arts may be enrolled in this class.

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6th grade Social Studies-Full Year (World History)

This course provides studies of the ancient civilizations of the Near and Far East, Greek and Roman civilizations, and continues through Medieval European life. Typically, the rise and fall of civilizations and empires are studies highlighting the legacies provided to successive societies. Sixth grade Social Studies Performance Standards (History, Geography, Civics and Government, and Economics) are included in this course.

6th grade Science-Full Year (Earth Science)

Students will learn how to use scientific tools, techniques, methods and measurements to conduct experiments and investigations. Students will learn how to use mathematics in science, how to analyze data and graphs, how to make predictions and how to communicate their findings. The students will be working in laboratory situations or learning through hands-on activities. Science literacy and critical thinking skills are key components at all grade levels.

6th Grade PE- Full Year Required

This is a required course to physical education. The first middle school physical education experience will be one of excitement, sportsmanship and minimal competition. Emphasis will be on basic skills in both team and individual sport activities. A daily activity program, along with assessment, will assist students in meeting District Physical Education Standards.

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ELECTIVES:

Exploratory Elective Wheel—Each class meets for 9 weeks

EXPLORATORY AVID

This course explores AVID's is an academic elective course that prepares students for high school/college readiness and success. Each week, students receive instruction utilizing a rigorous curriculum provided by AVID Center, tutor-facilitated tutorial groups, motivational activities and academic success skills. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to support their academic growth. At the Middle School level, the goal of AVID is to ensure that all students find their confidence and have academic success while on their journey of building their skills for college and career readiness. This is a quarter course.

EXPLORATORY DRAMA

Drama is an awesome outlet for creative and diverse talents. Through presentations and improvisation, young actors will learn the freedom of expression and gain confidence on stage. Students are given the opportunity to perform plays and skits. They create commercials, monologues and various other stage, television and radio themes. An open-mind and imagination are requirements for our class. This is a quarter course.

EXPLORATORY ART

Exploratory Arts and Crafts consists of a nine-week introduction to basic art media and development of initial skills. The focus will be on the development of the student's own abilities for artistic expression. The exploration of a variety of media will expose the student to options for self-expression and encourage the pursuit of art study as a valuable component of one's education. This is a quarter course.

EXPLORATORY LEADERSHIP

Students will explore a Middle School leadership class that teaches strong responsibility and leadership skills to help prepare students for life beyond. Students will have opportunities in archery, physical fitness, military history, building relationships with peers, co-workers and community, STEM activities, and citizenship. This is a quarter course.

Beginning Band-full year

This course is for students with no previous band experience. Students will learn to play a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument (flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, percussion). The focus will be on gaining individual proficiency of their instrument as well as group performance skills. Students will perform in several concerts throughout the school year.

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Orchestra-Full year

This course is for students with less than one (1) year or no previous experience playing the violin, viola, cello or bass. Basic string concepts and note-reading are introduced. Students will perform in evening concerts, assemblies and festivals as part of the course requirements. Eighth grade students may enroll for this class only with instructor approval. Previous musical experience on piano, guitar or other instruments is welcomed, but not required.

Choir – Full year

Students will learn basic vocal technique, pitch matching, tone production and a variety of repertoire from classical, folk and pop traditions. Over the school year, students will master vocal skills in a fun and supportive environment. Performances outside school hours are considered an extension of the instructional process and are required.

(TBD - There is a lab fee of \$50 which covers the cost of sheet music, accompanist fees and a t-shirt. Fundraising opportunities will be provided.)

Navajo/Dine