6th Grade Encore Elective Course Descriptions (60 Minutes, Every Other Day)

In sixth grade, your student will attend an **Encore Elective** class of their choice every other day for 60 minutes and an **E/I Elective** class of their choice every other day for 30 minutes, plus a 60-minute **Friday Elective**. Elective classes rotate with Library, Computer Science, and PE which all sixth graders take

Band

Band students will focus on ensemble skills and beginning band literature while continuing individual musicianship. After having one school year of experience in the 5th grade, some students can now branch out to other instruments such as oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, horn, baritone euphonium and tuba. Grades 1, and 2 music are played generally. If you did not take band in 5th grade but would like to begin in the 6th grade, we welcome you! First-year band students in 6th grade are required to register for the 30-minute E/I Elective Instrumental Practice class which allows for everyday music instruction. First year beginning students choose an instrument with the band director's assistance of flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone or percussion. While beginners will always take both the 60-minute Encore Band class AND the 30-minute E/I Elective Instrumental Practice class, ALL band students are highly encouraged to enroll in both classes for the advancement of the students' musicianship and our band program. The hour-long Encore band class will meet three times weekly.

Orchestra

Orchestra students expand and refine the skills developed in 5th grade. New skills involve the development of vibrato and shifting. If you did not take orchestra in 5th grade but would like to start now, we welcome you! **First-year** orchestra students in 6th grade are **required** to register for the 30-minute E/I Elective Instrumental Practice, which allows for everyday music instruction for our beginning musicians. Orchestra students that take orchestra everyday will be considered for Chamber Orchestra and participate in orchestra competitions. The hour-long Encore Orchestra class will meet three times weekly.

Chorus/Drama

This dynamic course blends vocal performance with theatrical creativity. Students build confidence as they learn foundational singing techniques, music theory basics, harmonization, and ensemble performance skills. In drama, they explore acting, character development, improvisation, and stage presence through hands-on activities and scene work. The class emphasizes teamwork, self-expression, and communication, culminating in a final performance that showcases both their musical and dramatic growth. The 2026–2027 musical will be *Matilda*!

Art

Artists in sixth grade will be studying "Art Through the Ages" while using a variety of media. Be ready to create art inspired by different time periods from prehistoric through contemporary times.

STEM

This course is called Design and Modeling. In this course, students use the engineering design method to design and build products to solve problems. Here are some of the products that students design and build: skimmers, puzzle cubes, bird houses, foot orthosis and therapeutic toys. Students also learn how to design and draw in three dimensions using Tinkercad. Students really enjoy 3D printing their Tinkercad designs. Design and Modeling is an interactive class that will challenge your imagination and building skills. Both girls and boys will enjoy this class!

6th Grade E/I Elective Course Descriptions (30 Minutes, Every Other Day)

Instrumental Practice – First Year Band or Orchestra students are required to take this class.

Band or **Orchestra** students choosing this class must also be registered for Band or Orchestra for their 60-minute Encore Elective class. Instrumental Practice class is an opportunity to commit to a higher skill level and prepare band students for wind ensemble, junior band clinic, explore jazz, and for orchestra students to prepare for chamber orchestra, explore alternative styles (fiddle, jazz). All band or orchestra students are highly encouraged to enroll in these classes for the advancement of the students' musicianship. The E/I Instrumental Practice Class will meet three times weekly.

Art - Project-based

In this class we will create art focused on the Elements of Art. Artists will learn how to consider and create different values, textures, shapes, and space in their artwork.

Creative Music

This interactive course introduces students to the basics of piano, guitar, and ukulele. They learn tuning, essential chords, strumming or fingering techniques, and foundational music theory. Students play simple songs on guitar and ukulele while exploring chord structures and strumming patterns. This class builds confidence and musicianship through hands-on learning with three popular instruments.

Leadworthy

This goal of this course is to inspire, challenge, and encourage students to be leaders in the school and the community. Leadworthy students will develop critical skills such as personal responsibility, communication, and decision-making skills. Most students find this class very rewarding because of the many service opportunities. Opportunities to serve include greeting at the doors in the morning, tutoring, welcoming new students, and many more! Students interested in signing up for this class must have consistently demonstrated appropriate behavior throughout their 5th grade school year.

6th Grade Encore Elective Course Descriptions (60 Minutes, FRIDAYS)

LEGO Engineering Lab

Unleash your creativity as you explore the art of engineering with LEGO bricks and cutting-edge 3D printers. In this course, students get to dive into design challenges where they will use Legos and 3D printers to bring their ideas to life. Get ready to innovate, collaborate, and turn your imagination into reality!

Choir

The choir is the musical voice of Montgomery Ridge! Students will perform in the Veterans Day assembly, share Christmas music with the community, participate in Spring Sing, and have the opportunity to participate in our school musical… Matilda!

Max Flight Motions

The design of this course focuses on various types of movement to improve strength, flexibility, agility, and skills through a wide range of physical challenges. Students will be presented with multiple opportunities to experience game play at an increased pace while developing a more extensive understanding of activity-specific skills and strategies.

Fiber Arts and Photography

This class will spend the fall semester practicing the rich history of fiber arts. Learn how to sew and mend, felting, and cross stich! In the spring, we will learn how to take professional looking photographs by studying the parts of a camera, elements of photography, and photography composition.

Eagle Assist

In this course, students will explore the value of service within our school and community while developing the skills to become effective servant leaders. They will design and implement projects that create a meaningful, positive impact in our school environment and have the opportunity to give back by serving in various roles around the school. To enroll, students must submit a completed point sheet to the office by February 9th. Point sheets are available in the office and will be evaluated based on academic effort and behavior.