



Grade Level Summary: 6th Grade

Art

Students learn various techniques, skills, and artistic applications by studying historic content and culture through the eyes and hands of an artist. Studies are overlapped and integrated with other grade-level subjects and classes. Examples include students designing Greek pottery and drawing Egyptian pharaohs. While exercising drawing and painting techniques, students learn to evaluate their personal work and develop an understanding of the art elements and principles.

History

Sixth grade uses the Impact California Social Studies curriculum and additional supplemental resources for history class. In this ancient history course, students study the lives of the earliest humans, the development of tools, the foraging way of life, agriculture, and the emergence of civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, ancient Israel, the Indus River valley, China, and the Mediterranean basin. With a focus on ancient events and problems, students study geography, environmental issues, political systems, power structures, and civic engagement. Students engage with fundamental ideas about citizenship, freedom, morality, and law in both ancient and modern contexts.

Language Arts

In Language Arts, students focus on reading comprehension across literature and informational text (including poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction) while utilizing a variety of different comprehension strategies. Students learn about the characteristics and structure of narrative, expository, and argumentative pieces of writing. The class emphasizes the development of critical thinking, reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary skills. Students also participate in small literature groups which cover at least three novel studies that focus on reading response and discussion, comprehension skills, writing, vocabulary, and small projects.

Latin

In Latin this year, students will begin to recognize and appreciate the contributions of the language to many other languages and professions. They will infer the meaning of various English words based on learned Latin vocabulary. The Latin grammar throughout the year will reinforce and sometimes preview what they learn in Grammar class. Supplied with essential Latin grammar and vocabulary (respective to the chapter), students will translate passages, imploring them to apply their new knowledge.

Mathematics

Sixth-grade math is designed to help students develop and strengthen sufficient computational, procedural, and problem-solving skills to provide a solid foundation. A broad range of topics is taught, including the following concepts: rational numbers, expressions, equations, inequalities, ratios, rates, percents, geometry, and data. Throughout the year, emphasis is placed on differentiation, enrichment, and review. Additional online programs are used to practice and differentiate as well as assess student fluency. A highlight of the year is the Finance Project.

Music

Students focus on singing in tune, singing in two-part harmony, as well as reading and notating music. They also learn how to improvise and accompany themselves on Orff and percussion instruments. They focus on listening, analyzing, and describing music. Lastly, they continue to practice singing with expression and performing in front of an audience.

Physical Education

Classes focus on health-related topics, including body composition, cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance, strength, and flexibility. Additionally, skill-related fitness concepts such as agility, balance, coordination, power, reaction time, and speed are incorporated into daily activities. Units consist of team sport activities, such as soccer, team handball, basketball, floor hockey, pickleball, and badminton. Students have daily physical fitness activities, and one day a week, the concentration is on cardiovascular fitness through middle-distance endurance as well as circuit training targeting skill-related concepts.

Science

Students are introduced to the Scientific Inquiry and Engineering Design Processes as they deepen their understanding of Earth Science. The course begins with an exploration of Earth's place in the solar system and the universe. Students then investigate energy transformations and their influence on weather and climate. Next, they examine Earth's surface systems and its geological history. The course concludes with collaborative studies on plate tectonics, the distribution of natural resources, and human impacts on the environment. Throughout, students engage in hands-on labs and experiments to strengthen their knowledge and bring Earth Science concepts to life.

Spanish

In Spanish, students learn to speak, read, and write in the present tense with a variety of high-frequency vocabulary ranging from calendar to daily activities and even math. Students incorporate and conjugate -ar, -er, and -ir Spanish verbs in their reading, writing, and speaking. Sixth graders also read several entry-level Spanish novels, as well as complete vocabulary and comprehension exercises to support their reading. Individual and group projects are used to enhance comprehension throughout the year. Students get the chance to practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing at an appropriate level.

Theater

Sixth-grade theater includes learning about Shakespeare's life and works, developing a sonnet, and finally producing a student production of a Shakespeare-themed comedy. This theater experience provides a scaffolded context for the subsequent years of Shakespeare studies.