KIRKWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

GERMAN 6TH GRADE
Course Overview

Course Description:
The 6th grade exploratory German course serves as an introduction to the basics of the language and cultures of the German-speaking world. The course's goal is to spark interest, curiosity, and a general awareness of the language. It lays the foundation for future learning and engagement in the language.

Scope and Sequence:

Exploratory Unit: The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity

Enduring Understandings:

- Learning about other cultures benefits us as individuals in a larger society.
- Language study is a window to discovering the norms, values, and cultural qualities of a people and their culture.
- The study of a world language and the ability to communicate with it foster a life-long appreciation and an open mind for cultures different from our own.

Essential Questions:

- How does learning a language help me understand cultures that are different from my own?
- How am I part of a global community?
- How will I use my language skills outside of the classroom?
- How can I be competitive in a world job market?
- How does language connect individuals and cultures promoting empathy and tolerance?

GERMAN 6TH GRADE
EXPLORATORY UNIT: THE INFLUENCE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE ON IDENTITY

EXPLORATORY UNIT DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW

Students are introduced to the intricacies of the language and cultural norms of German-speaking societies.

Unit Essential Learning Targets	
Enduring Understandings	***Essential Questions***
• Identity is shaped by cultural and language experiences. • Language and culture influence our perception of ourselves and others. • Awareness of language and cultural differences fosters empathy, respect, and effective communication across diverse communities.	• What are some cultural aspects that define German-speaking societies? • What is important to people in German-speaking societies? What is important to people in our own society? • What similarities and differences exist between cultural norms in German-speaking societies and our own?
Students must know:	***Students must be able to:***
• Culturally appropriate greetings and farewells • Ways to express basic personal information and appropriate terminology • Defining cultural aspects of German-speaking societies	• Identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken or written. • Communicate in spontaneous spoken or written conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences, and questions. • Present information on both very familiar and everyday topics using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken or written language. • Identify products and practices in my own and other cultures to help understand perspectives. • Interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday contexts.

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Missouri Learning Standards
Communication—Communicate in Languages Other Than English ● 1.1: Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions. ● 1.2: Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics. ● 1.3: Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.
Culture—Gain Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures ● 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied. ● 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.
Connections—Connect With Other Disciplines and Acquire Information ● 3.1: Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language. ● 3.2: Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures.
Comparisons—Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture ● 4.1: Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own. ● 4.2: Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.
Communities—Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home and Around the World ● 5.1: Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting. ● 5.2: Students show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.