



SJPS Middle School Curriculum Guide

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6th Grade

Social Studies

Sixth grade social studies looks at the various early human civilizations and how those civilizations helped shape the world we know today.

1. Studying History - fact vs opinion, sources, bias, point of view
2. Essential components of Civilizations
3. Early Humans - Stone Age
4. River Valley Civilizations - Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, India
5. Greece
6. Rome
7. African Civilizations
8. Medieval Europe
9. MesoAmerica - Inca, Maya, Aztec

Religion

Following the Diocese curriculum, all middle school students will use a variety of materials to cover topics including: The Creedal Church, Christian Morality, Prayer and Scripture, Liturgy and the Sacraments, and The Church.

We will focus on these areas (more may be added):

- Bible:
- Geography of the Bible
- Old Testament / New Testament

There is also the service project component of Religion. All students are required to complete 5 hours per trimester with a reflection each trimester. The reflection will be tied to our mission statement: SJPS: teaching, learning, leading, and serving as the hands of Christ

Spanish

Sixth graders will begin with the Spanish 1 curriculum that is used in Grafton's public Middle and High School. The goal is to complete this curriculum by the end of eighth grade so that students may enter Spanish 2 when they begin high school, if they so choose. The textbook series used is Realidades, although I will also be using other materials to supplement my instruction.

Some topics that will be covered include: greetings and goodbyes, alphabet, colors, numbers 0-199, body parts, weather & seasons, days and months, class items & expressions, telling time, likes & dislikes, adjectives, & a variety of verbs. Verbs will be taught in the Present tense.

I also have been talking with Mr. Kabara and students will be learning about Spanish Geography in a new way, stay tuned for more information. Cultural aspects will be a huge part of class this year. Cultures from various Spanish speaking lands will be explored. Students will learn the above topics in a variety of ways integrating the standards for world language into my instruction.

Students will also learn the mission statement in Spanish along with some prayers. It is my goal that students will feel comfortable saying them at mass by the new year. In regards to homework: I will not be using the remind app yet as I do not know how to use it in my instruction. Students will write assignments in their planner and will be using Google Classroom as well. When I master the Remind app you will be able to see what their assignments are.

How parents can be supportive at home with learning a world language:

- Check for a vocabulary sheet , notes and/or a Quizlet set at home. Your child may not have always have a written assignment, but they should be studying their vocabulary a little each night. Sometimes they will need to speak with you orally to practice at home, they may have to ask questions, if you can answer great if not that is ok also. Listen to them and be encouraging even if it doesn't sound just right.
- Before quiz/test time, you say the English and see if they can come up with the Spanish. My assessments this year will be in written and oral format. They will be presenting material in small groups as well as speaking in front of the whole class. They will also be asked to answer questions in Spanish.
- Ask them to teach you some words related to the topic we are learning. Learning together is always fun :)

Sixth Grade Language Arts/Literature Curriculum Overview

Literature

- Literature Anthology (Prentice Hall): short stories, plays, poetry, folktales, & tall tales.
- Potential Novels: *The Lightning Thief*; *Freak the Mighty*; *Holes*, *The Westing Game*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, etc.

- Non-Fiction: Students will read a variety of non-fiction articles throughout the year from various sources.
- Independent Reading: Students will be required to have a reading book with them at all times, in the case of finishing their work early or needing something quiet to do. Students will be encouraged to read independently in and out of class.
- Students will be expected to read a book of their choice — different from the required novels covered in class — before the conclusion of the third trimester. At the end of the third trimester, students will be required to complete a project on their novel and show their creation to their classmates in a formal presentation.
- Integration of Catholic Social Teachings

Language Arts

- Journals: Students will keep a journal in class in order to practice their writing skills. Topics for the journal entries will vary and oftentimes will be tied into what we are reading in literature class.
- Composition:
 - Writing Process - For formal essays students will be required to follow the writing process (prewriting, writing, revision, editing, and publishing). Formal writing assignments will be word-processed (or Google Docs) and formatted according to MLA guidelines.
 - Types of writing include but are not limited to: descriptive, argumentative, persuasive, narrative, expository/informative, and creative writing
 - Writings: Descriptive Free-Writes, Personal Narrative, Comparison/Contrast Essay, Narrative Short Stories, Expository/Informative, Literature Responses, Text-Dependent Analysis Prompts, Creative Writing
 - Submissions of writing to contests held outside of school
 - Writing Portfolio - Students will be keeping a digital portfolio of their writing throughout the year. Portfolios are an excellent way for students to measure their growth as writers and identify their strengths and areas for improvement.
- Grammar/Usage/Mechanics (*Language Network*- McDougal Littell)
 - Parts of Speech: Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections
 - Sentence and Its Parts: Kinds of Sentences, Run-Ons and Fragments, Active vs Passive
 - Punctuation, Capitalization, Spelling

- Speeches/Oral Presentations
 - Speeches and Oral Presentations will be expected as part of coursework. Topics and lengths of speeches will vary.
 - Middle School speech contests may be held in the spring.

Math

Workbook: HMH Into Math

Unit 1 Number Systems and Operations

1. Integer Concepts
2. Rational Number Concepts
3. Fraction Division
4. Fluency with Multi-Digit Decimal Operations

Unit 2 Ratio and Rate Reasoning

1. Ratios and Rates
2. Apply Ratios and Rates to Measurement
3. Understand and Apply Percent

Unit 3 Expressions, Equations and Inequalities

1. Numerical and Algebraic Expressions
2. Solve Problems Using Equations and Inequalities
3. Real-World Relationships Between Variables

Unit 4 Relationships in Geometry

1. Polygons on the Coordinate Plane
2. Area of Triangles and Special Quadrilaterals
3. Surface Area and Volume

Unit 5 Data Collection and Analysis

1. Data Collection and Displays
2. Measures of Center
3. Variability and Data Distribution

Our curriculum will be supplemented with IXL and Waggle to help us reinforce the various skills that we learn.

Science

Sixth grade science will focus on Earth and Space Science topics.

Workbook: Inspire Science

Unit 1: Exploring Space

Module 1: The Sun-Moon-Earth System

1. Earth's Motion Around the Sun
2. Lunar Phases
3. Eclipses

Module 2: Exploring the Universe

1. Gravity and the Universe
2. The Solar System

Unit 2: Water and Climate

Module 1: The Water Cycle

1. Water in the Atmosphere
2. Water on Earth's Surface

Module 2: Weather and Climate

1. Solar Energy on Earth
2. Atmospheric and Oceanic Circulation
3. Weather Patterns
4. Climates of Earth

Unit 3: Impacts on the Environment

Module 1: Human Impact on the Environment

1. Impact on Land
2. Impact on Water
3. Impact on the Atmosphere
4. Impact on Climate

Module 2: Earth and Human Activity

1. Human Population Growth
2. People and the Environment

Unit 4: The Changing Earth

Module 1: Geologic Time

1. Analyzing the Rock and Fossil Records
2. Building a Timeline

Module 2: Dynamic Earth

1. Moving Continents
2. Development of a Theory
3. Shaping Earth's Surface
4. Changing Earth's Surface
5. The Cycling of Earth's Materials

Module 3: Distribution of Earth's Resources

1. Natural Resources
2. Distribution of Resources
3. Depletion of Resources

Module 4: Natural Hazards

1. Earthquake Risks
2. Volcano Risks
3. Severe Weather

7th Grade

Social Studies

Seventh Grade Geography is a study of the patterns and interactions of countries in our world. Students will determine information about people, places, and environment through the use and construction of geography tools. With each unit, we will focus on the major aspects of geography, how that shapes the region and compares to life in the United States.

1. Tools of Geography - Maps, graphs and elements of geography
2. Latin America
3. Western Europe
4. Eastern Europe
5. Asia (China, Japan, Mongolia and the Korea's)
6. Southeast Asia
7. South Asia
8. Australia/Oceania
9. Antarctica
10. Africa

Religion

Following the Diocese curriculum, all middle school students will use a variety of materials to cover topics including: The Creedal Church, Christian Morality, Prayer, Liturgy and the Sacraments, and The Church. The 7th Grade focuses on the Creedal Church, Prayer, Liturgy and Sacraments.

We will focus on these areas (more may be added):

- Creedal Church
- Liturgy and Sacraments
- Modern Church and its set up

There is also the service project component of Religion. All students are required to complete 5 hours per trimester with a reflection each trimester. The reflection will be tied to our mission statement: SJPS: teaching, learning, leading, and serving as the hands of Christ

Spanish

Seventh grade Spanish will review last year's topics and add new vocabulary and grammar concepts throughout the year. We will use the alphabet, add to our greetings, classroom expressions, classroom items, weather & seasons. New topics will include conjugating verbs in the plural parts of speech, prepositions of location, classes, and the beginnings of AR Verb conjugation in the present tense. The textbook series used is Realidades, although I will also be using other materials to supplement my instruction.

I also have been talking with Mr. Kabara and students will be learning about Spanish Geography in a new way, stay tuned for more information. Cultural aspects will be a huge part of class this year. Cultures from various Spanish speaking lands will be explored. Students will learn the above topics in a variety of ways integrating the standards for world language into my instruction.

Students will also learn the mission statement in Spanish along with some prayers. It is my goal that students will feel comfortable saying them at mass by the new year. In regards to homework: I will not be using the Remind app yet as I do not know how to use it in my instruction. Students will write assignments in their planner and will be using Google Classroom as well. When I master the Remind app you will be able to see what their assignments are.

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- Ask them to teach you some words related to the topic we are learning. Learning together is always fun :)

Seventh Grade Language Arts/Literature Curriculum Overview

Literature

- Literature Anthology (Prentice Hall): short stories, plays, poetry, folktales, & mythology
- Potential Novels: *The Sword of Summer*, *The Hobbit*, *The Pearl*, *The Giver*, *The Outsiders*, *King of Shadows*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Call of the Wild*
- Non-Fiction: Students will read a variety of non-fiction articles throughout the year.

- Independent Reading: Students will be required to have a reading book with them at all times, in the case of finishing their work early or needing something quiet to do. Students will be encouraged to read independently in and out of class.
- Students will be expected to read a book of their choice — different from the required novels covered in class — before the conclusion of the third trimester. At the end of the third trimester, students will be required to complete a project on their novel and show their creation to their classmates in a formal presentation.
- Integration of Catholic Social Teachings

Language Arts

- Journals: Students will keep a journal in class in order to practice their writing skills. Topics for the journal entries will vary and oftentimes will be tied into what we are reading in literature class.
- Composition:
 - Writing Process - For formal essays students will be required to follow the writing process (prewriting, writing, revision, editing, and publishing). Formal writing assignments will be word-processed (or Google Docs) and formatted according to MLA guidelines.
 - Types of writing include but are not limited to: descriptive, argumentative, persuasive, narrative, expository/informative, and creative writing
 - Writings: Descriptive Free-Writes, Personal Narrative, Comparison/Contrast Essay, Narrative Short Stories, Expository/Informative, Literature Responses, Text-Dependent Analysis Prompts, Creative Writing
 - Submissions of writing to contests held outside of school
 - Writing Portfolio - Students will be keeping a digital portfolio of their writing throughout the year. Portfolios are an excellent way for students to measure their growth as writers and identify their strengths and areas for improvement.
- Grammar/Usage/Mechanics (*Language Network*- McDougal Littell)
 - Parts of Speech: Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections
 - Sentence and Its Parts: Kinds of Sentences, Run-Ons and Fragments, Active vs Passive
 - Punctuation, Capitalization, Spelling
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Math

Workbook: HMH Into Math

Unit 1: Proportional Relationships

1. Identify and Represent Proportional Relationships
2. Proportional Reasoning with Percents

Unit 2: Rational Number Operations

1. Understand Addition and Subtraction of Rational Numbers
2. Add and Subtract Rational Numbers
3. Multiply and Divide Rational Numbers
4. Solve Multi-Step Problems Using Rational Numbers

Unit 3: Model with Expressions, Equations and Inequalities

1. Solve Problems Using Expressions and Equations
2. Solve Problems Using Inequalities

Unit 4: Geometry

1. Draw and Analyze Two-Dimensional Figures
2. Analyze Figures to Find Circumference and Area
3. Analyze Surface Area and Volume

Unit 5: Sampling and Data Analysis

1. Proportional Reasoning with Samples
2. Use Statistics and Graphs to Compare Data

Unit 6: Probability

1. Understand and Apply Experimental Probability
2. Understand and Apply Theoretical Probability

Our curriculum will be supplemented with IXL and Waggle to help us reinforce the various skills that we learn.

Science

7th grade science will focus on Physical Science topics.

Workbook: Inspire Science

Unit 1: Energy and Motion

Module 1: Forces and Motion

1. Position and Motion
2. Force and Acceleration
3. Force Pairs
4. Gravitational Force

Module 2: Mechanical Energy

1. Kinetic Energy
2. Potential Energy
3. Conservation of Energy

Module 3: Electromagnetic Forces

1. Magnetic Forces
2. Electric Forces
3. Simple Circuits
4. Electromagnetism

Unit 2: Understanding Waves

Module 1: Introduction to Waves

1. Wave Properties
2. Mechanical Wave Interactions

Module 2: Light

1. How Light Travels
2. Reflection and Mirrors
3. Refraction and Lenses
4. Color of Light

Module 3: Information Technologies

1. Communicating with Signals
2. Modern Communication with Digital Signals

Unit 3: Understanding Matter

Module 1: Energy and Matter

1. Particles in Motion
2. States of Matter
3. Thermal Energy Transfers
4. Thermal Energy Conductivity

Module 2: Classification and States of Matter

1. Energy and States of Matter
2. Changes in Temperature
3. Changes in Pressure
4. Molecular Structure

Unit 4: Interactions of Matter

Module 1: Matter - Properties and Changes

1. Properties of Matter
2. Property Changes in Chemical Reactions
3. Energy Changes in Chemical Reactions

Module 2: Materials Science

1. Synthetic Technology
2. Synthetic Materials and Societal Impacts

8th Grade

Social Studies

Eighth Grade American History is a study of American History. Students will be learning history through three major themes: Citizenship, Expansion and Conflict. Each component will look at different events throughout history with a similar themes and how these events have shaped our country to what it is today.

1. Citizenship
 - a. Constitution
 - b. Government
 - c. Voting and citizens responsibilities
2. Expansion
 - a. Colonial expansion
 - b. Population and land expansion
 - c. Industrial expansion
 - d. Scientific expansion
3. Conflict
 - a. Wars
 - b. Political
 - c. Civil

Religion

Following the Diocese curriculum, all middle school students will use a variety of materials to cover topics including: The Creedal Church, Christian Morality, Prayer, Liturgy and the Sacraments, and The Church. 8th Grade Religion focuses on Church History and Morality

We will focus on these areas (more may be added):

- Church History
- Morality

There is also the service project component of Religion. All students are required to complete 5 hours per trimester with a reflection each trimester. The reflection will be tied to our mission statement: SJPS: teaching, learning, leading, and serving as the hands of Christ. This year 8th graders will be encouraged to take a lead in creating / leading services for other students both in the school / parish as well as outside the school / parish.

Spanish

The goal for 8th grade Spanish is to complete the Spanish 1 curriculum that is used in Grafton's public Middle and High School in order that students may enter Spanish 2 when they begin high school, if they so choose. Students will review the beginning topics of the Realidades textbook and soon will be starting in chapter 3a which encompasses food and Er/ Ir verbs conjugations. With this unit we review many previously learned vocabulary and sentence structure.

Cultural aspects will be a huge part of class this year. Cultures from various Spanish speaking lands will be explored. Students will learn the above topics in a variety of ways integrating the standards for world language into my instruction.

Students will also learn the mission statement in Spanish along with some prayers. It is my goal that students will feel comfortable saying them at mass by the new year. In regards to homework: I will not be using the Remind app yet as I do not know how to use it in my instruction. Students will write assignments in their planner and will be using Google Classroom as well. When I master the Remind app you will be able to see what their assignments are.

How parents can be supportive at home with learning a world language:

- Check for a vocabulary sheet, notes and/or a Quizlet set at home. Your child may not have always have a written assignment, but they should be studying their vocabulary a little each night. Sometimes they will need to speak with you orally to practice at home, they may have to ask questions, if you can answer great if not that is ok also. Listen to them and be encouraging even if it doesn't sound just right.
- Before quiz/test time, you say the English and see if they can come up with the Spanish. My assessments this year will be in written and oral format. They will be presenting material in small groups as well as speaking in front of the whole class.

They will also be asked to answer questions in Spanish. If they speak in front of you first it might help with their nerves.

- Ask them to teach you some words related to the topic we are learning. Learning together is always fun :)

Eighth Grade Language Arts/Literature Curriculum Overview

Literature

- Literature Anthology (Prentice Hall): short stories, plays, poetry
- Potential Novels: *Life of Pi*; *Animal Farm*; *Refugee*; *Everyman*; *A Raisin in the Sun*; *The Jungle*; *The Diary of a Young Girl*; *Frankenstein*; *Shakespeare's Macbeth*; *Fahrenheit 451*, etc...
- Non-Fiction: Students will read a variety of non-fiction articles throughout the year. If time allows, we will try to read a short novel of non-fiction.
- Independent Reading: Students will be required to have a reading book with them at all times, in the case of finishing their work early or needing something quiet to do. Students will be encouraged to read independently in and out of class.
- Students will be expected to read a book of their choice — different from the required novels covered in class — before the conclusion of the third trimester. At the end of the third trimester, students will be required to complete a project on their novel and show their creation to their classmates in a formal presentation.
- Integration of Catholic Social Teachings

Language Arts

- Journals: Students will keep a journal in class in order to practice their writing skills. Topics for the journal entries will vary and oftentimes will be tied into what we are reading in literature class.
- Composition:
 - Writing Process - For formal essays students will be required to follow the writing process (prewriting, writing, revision, editing, and publishing). Formal writing assignments will be word-processed (or Google Docs) and formatted according to MLA guidelines.

- Writings: Descriptive Free-Writes, Personal Narrative, Comparison/Contrast Essay, Narrative Short Stories, Expository/Informative, Literature Responses, Text-Dependent Analysis Prompts, Creative Writing
 - Potential Essays: Movie/Book Review, Business Letter, Biographical Sketch, Research Paper (Persuasive Essay), Creative Stories, Literature Responses
 - Submissions of writing to contests held outside of school
 - Writing Portfolio- Students will be keeping a portfolio of their writing throughout the year. Portfolios are an excellent way for students to measure their growth as writers and identify their strengths and areas for improvement.
- Grammar/Usage/Mechanics (*Language Network*- McDougal Littell)
 - Parts of Speech: Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections
 - Sentence and Its Parts: Clauses, Interrupters, Appositives, Gerunds, Objects, Subject Complements
 - Punctuation, Capitalization, Spelling
- Speeches/Oral Presentations
 - Speeches and Oral Presentations will be expected as part of coursework. Topics and lengths of speeches will vary.
 - Middle School speech contests may be held in the spring.

Math

Workbook: HMH Into Math

Unit 1: Transformation Geometry

1. Transformations and Congruence
2. Transformations and Similarity

Unit 2: Linear Equations and Applications

1. Solve Linear Equations
2. Angle Relationships

Unit 3: Relationships and Functions

1. Proportional Relationships
2. Understand and Analyze Functions
3. Systems of Linear Equations

Unit 4: Statistics and Probability

1. Scatter Plots
2. Two-Way Tables

Unit 5: Real Numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem

1. Real Numbers
2. The Pythagorean Theorem

Unit 6: Exponents, Scientific Notation and Volume

1. Exponents and Scientific Notation
2. Volume

Our curriculum will be supplemented with IXL and Waggle to help us reinforce the various skills that we learn.

Algebra

Workbook: HMH Algebra I

Unit 1 Real Numbers and Connections to Algebra

Module 1 - Real Numbers and Real-World Quantities

Module 2 - Linear Equations and Inequalities in One Variable

Unit 2 Linear Functions and Equations

Module 3 - Linear Equations in Two Variables

Module 4 - Linear Functions and Models

Module 5 - Relationships Among Linear Functions

Unit 3 Build Linear Functions and Models

Module 6 - Fit Linear Functions to Data

Module 7 - Discrete Linear Functions

Module 8 - Piecewise-Defined Functions

Unit 4 Linear Systems

Module 9 - Systems of Linear Equations

Module 10 - Linear Inequalities

Unit 5 Exponential Functions and Equations

Module 11 - Exponential Functions and Models

Module 12 - Relationships AMong Exponential Functions

Unit 6 Build Exponential Functions and Models

Module 13 - Fit Exponential Functions to Data

Module 14 - Discrete Exponential Functions

Unit 7 Polynomial Operations and Models

Module 15 - Polynomial Multiplication

Module 16 - Polynomial Addition and Subtraction

Unit 8 Quadratic Functions and Equations

Module 17 - Use Graphing and Factoring to Solve Quadratic Equations

Module 18 - Use Square Roots to Solve Quadratic Equations

Unit 9 Functions and Models

Module 19 - Build Quadratic Functions and Models

Our curriculum will be supplemented with Waggle to help us reinforce the various skills that we learn.

Science

8th grade science will focus on Life Science topics.

Workbook: Inspire Science

Unit 1: Interactions within Ecosystems

Module 1: Matter and Energy in Ecosystems

1. Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration
2. Flow of Energy
3. Cycling of Matter

Module 2: Dynamic Ecosystems

1. Resources in Ecosystems
2. Interactions within Ecosystems
3. Changing Ecosystems

Module 3: Biodiversity in Ecosystems

1. Benefits of Biodiversity
2. Maintaining Biodiversity

Unit 2: Life Structure and Function

Module 1: Cells and Life

1. Exploring Life
2. Cell Structure and Function

Module 2: Body Systems

1. Levels of Organization
2. Structure and Support
3. Obtaining Energy and Removing Waste
4. Moving Materials
5. Control and Information Processing

Unit 3: Reproduction of Organisms

Module 1: Reproduction of Organisms

1. Inheritance
2. Types of Reproduction
3. Reproduction and Growth of Animals
4. Reproduction and Growth of Plants

Unit 4: Change Over Time

Module 1: Natural Selection and Adaptations

1. How Traits Change
2. The Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection
3. Artificial Selection

Module 2: Evidence of Evolution

1. Fossil Evidence of Evolution

2. Biological Evidence of Evolution