



Seventh Grade Curriculum

Religion: The seventh grade religion curriculum is organized around a theme-based Bible story approach with great attention given to helping students make real-life connections. Within the context of the lessons, students learn key concepts of faith such as Law and Gospel, confession, repentance, forgiveness, and grace. There are nine units which roughly coincide with the time in the Church Year, highlighting key events like Reformation, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Through a planned memory program students learn selected Scripture verses, Hymn verses, and portions of Luther's Small Catechism. Application of Biblical principles and Christian faith to everyday life is a daily emphasis.

History: Seventh and eighth grade social studies is a two-year study of United States History. Seventh graders begin with a look at early Native American cultures, and follow through to the 1850's. The year ends with an overview of the causes of the Civil War. Also included is an in depth look at the United States Constitution, its amendments and a comparison with Michigan's constitution.

Math: The seventh grade Math curriculum is strongly algebraic. All arithmetic operations are reviewed with equations and variables. With each unit of study, equations increase in complexity to include solutions with both positive and negative numbers, fractions and decimals. Throughout the curriculum, critical thinking and problem-solving skills are emphasized. Coordinate graphing and inequalities are introduced. The organization, analysis, and interpretation of data are taught to determine probability. In the two-dimensional and three-dimensional geometry units, algebra is employed in solving the formulas.

English: Grammar instruction is emphasized and includes parts of speech, punctuation, usage, sentence and paragraph structure as well as capitalization and other rules of grammar. Students engage in numerous writing and speaking activities. Writing and oral presentation are emphasized in and outside of classroom instruction. Students also write a research paper in the second semester as well as writing assignments including expository, personal narrative, persuasion, autobiographical, descriptive, and demonstrative essays.

Literature: Students will study various genres in class while using the Glencoe Course 2 Reading Series. They will also be exposed to several novels and coordinating projects.

Science: The seventh grade science curriculum provides opportunities for students to hypothesize, investigate, observe, and draw conclusions about the world around them. Students are encouraged to combine text information with experience gained through demonstrations, hands-on experiments, and exploration activities. Topics include use of the scientific method, microbiology, cellular structure and function, dissection, and human body systems.

Vocabulary and Spelling: Students study spelling patterns as they build on their basic vocabulary. Root words using affixes and word endings are studied. Spelling generalizations and skills are reviewed. Dictionary and thesaurus skills are also reviewed. A vocabulary book is used to strengthen spelling and vocabulary development. Vocabulary use in the core subjects of Math, Science, Literature, English, and U.S. History is also studied.