

Edgar Middle School Courses of Study Grade 6

English Language Arts (ELA)

ELA-6

The comprehensive sixth grade English Language Arts program integrates the elements of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and grammar. The expectation is that the students receive direct and differentiated instruction in each of these elements. This standards and research-based curriculum is designed to build upon each student's experiences and skills addressed in the previous school year and facilitate student growth in the areas delineated by the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts, which in turn assists each student in becoming critical, lifelong readers and writers.

Mathematics

Math -6 Advanced

Advanced Math 6 is a complete mathematics curriculum for strong mathematics students that helps develop an understanding of important concepts, skills, procedures, and ways of thinking and reasoning in number sense, geometry, measurement, algebra, probability and statistics. Students follow the Math 6 curriculum at a faster pace allowing for the coverage of six additional topics towards the end of the school year. The program is currently aligned with the New Jersey Learning Standards for Mathematics providing students with the tools necessary for success on the PARCC 6 assessment.

Math- 6

Math 6 is the first year of the Middle School Math Program and provides students with the necessary foundation for algebra readiness. This course helps students make the transition from an elementary math program to a more advanced middle school program. This course emphasizes numerical reasoning, including not only computational skills and operations, but also the relationships among whole numbers, decimals, fractions and percent. The program is currently aligned with the New Jersey Learning Standards for Mathematics providing students with the tools necessary for success on the PARCC 6 assessment.

Social Studies

Social Studies-6

This course continues the study of American History begun in the fifth grade. The year begins with a study of the development of the U.S. Constitution and continues through a

chronological study that ends with the Progressive Era. Whereas the fifth grade program focuses upon the early colonization of North America and an understanding of the fight for independence from Great Britain, the sixth grade focuses more on the economic forces that caused major change and conflict in the 19th and 20th century United States. The curriculum is aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in Social Studies and 21st Century Skills.

Science

Science-6

In Science 6 students learn about the earth and space, focusing on Plate Tectonics, Weather and Climate, and the Sun-Moon-Earth System. The emphasis of the course is to further develop students' science inquiry and problem solving skills, to advance deep understanding of science content, concepts and processes, and to provide opportunities for meaningful application of science learning. Students will frequently be actively engaged in hands-on investigations, allowing them to build knowledge based on their observations and experiences in a teacher supported environment. Students will experience both individual and cooperative learning activities, with opportunities to relate learning to the world around them, solve problems with scientific information, and develop engineering designs. Scientific literacy and the ability to communicate about science through reading, writing and speaking is an important part of this course.

World Language

Spanish-6

This introductory course in Spanish presents the first half of the *Expresate 1A* textbook (Holt) and allows the students to experience listening, speaking, reading and writing simple Spanish. The knowledge and content will build on the students' current knowledge and seek to explore new vocabulary and cultures of the Spanish speaking world. The curriculum is tied closely to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for World Languages. This course will meet on an A day/B day schedule for the entire school year.

Physical Education/Health Education

Physical Education

Physical Education is a co-educational program. Activities in the program are designed for the students to explore various positive physical experiences. These activities are used as a medium for attaining, improving and maintaining physical fitness. The students will be introduced to sports for recreational purposes while developing sportsmanship qualities.

Skills will help develop agility, balance, cardio-vascular endurance, flexibility and strength. Individual skills, team play, strategy and playing rules of sports and games are taught. Opportunities for skill development in lifetime sports are also offered for carry-over value later in life.

Health-6

Students in sixth grade study nutrition, puberty and stages of gestation. Students will also learn about the human mind and the physical, mental and social development of human body. The course develops a basic understanding of how to communicate effectively in the everyday world in which we live. The course also explores the new laws on bullying and the problem of bullying in our society. This is a one marking cycle course.

Life Studies

Life Studies-6

Life Studies is a half-year course offered to all 6th grade students. Topic areas covered include but are not limited to character education, career education, the study skills of organization, note taking, studying and adjustment. During the second half of the school year, the focus is on developing research skills. Topics covered throughout the year include interpersonal skills, problem solving, tolerance, prejudice, budgeting, banking, money management, time management, and government.

Students discuss a variety of methods for accomplishing our goals. Emphasis is placed on the fact that everyone has different methods/skills and learning styles that work for him/her. Students will be completing a variety of projects to enhance the learning experience of the various units. These projects are both independent and group oriented. This course will meet on an A day/B day schedule for the entire school year.

Cycle Courses

Construction Project- 6

In this program students develop an understanding of technical drawing and technology. With respect to technical drawing, students are introduced to the process of creating a multi-view drawing and an isometric drawing. Students gain an understanding of technology by completing design and construction projects. The proper handling of design tools is emphasized, as well as safety procedures in an Industrial Arts lab environment. Appropriate workplace readiness standards will be addressed throughout the program.

Art-6

The sixth grade art program is the second-level course designed to continue the middle school art program, both regular and sequential. This program focuses on providing students with further opportunities to explore, express, research and critique the various forms in art available to them. The program provides adequate classroom time for studio

projects focusing on the art elements addressed in the New Jersey Visual Arts Core Curriculum Content Standards.

General Music-6

In this general music format, classroom activities focus on three general areas: music listening (stressing the development of listening skills); music theory (emphasis on music reading); performance (developing the ability to play guitar and piano). The emphasis for this year of study is World Music. Students continue to experiment with computer generate music and begin to understand the skills inherent in ensemble playing. The curricular offerings are tied directly to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for the Arts.

Computers-6

This course is an intermediate course that enables students to create, manipulate and present information using website development tools, collaborative presentation applications, cloud based interactive multimedia posters and much more. We also discuss and explore the use of spreadsheets, databases and various graphical organizers. We will explore the advantages of each and identify which tool to use in different situations. The course provides an interdisciplinary aspect by blending major Grade 6 Earth Science themes throughout the 10 week cycle course of study. The curriculum incorporates the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Technology along and the New Jersey Core Content Standards for 21st-Century Life and Career skills incorporating creative, critical thinking, collaborating and problem-solving skills in each major units of study.

Music Ensembles

5th & 6th Grade Band

This music program is intended for those students who would like to begin band or continue band activities from a former grade and wish to continue expanding upon their knowledge and enjoyment of music. This course focuses on the development of skills, knowledge and musical insights necessary for mature performance and appreciation. The program closely addresses all New Jersey Core Content Standards for the Performing Arts.

5th & 6th Grade Chorus

The choral program is designed based on the belief that every child brings with themselves a unique set of abilities, understandings, and life experiences so that every individual's vocal contribution is integral to the experience of the entire singing ensemble. Music will be studied and rehearsed from a variety of musical styles and languages. Students will learn basic vocal technique, sight singing, reading music notation and singing individual parts. The curriculum will focus on all elements addressed in the New Jersey Core Curriculum Contents Standards for the Performing Arts.

5th & 6th Grade Orchestra

Students participating in the string program in 5th and 6th grade are scheduled for orchestra once a week and group lessons once a week. The full Orchestra schedule meets the same time each week while the group lesson schedules rotate. Classes are designed to develop the skills, knowledge, teamwork, independence, and musical insights necessary to develop mature performance practices. Correct technique, note reading, and developing precise intonation are stressed. Performance repertoire is chosen to reinforce concepts introduced in lessons. All offerings are closely aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for the Performing Arts.

Gifted and Talented

Grade 6 G&T

The emphasis of the Grade 6 G&T curriculum is to develop the talents and abilities of our most gifted students. The program is offered as two semester courses; one addressing students gifted in the Math/Science areas, and one addressing students gifted in the Language Arts/Social Studies areas. Programming will focus on development of knowledge and skills to be applied to a major collaborative project or endeavor. Math/Science students engage in urban design challenges as part of the Future City competition, and Language Arts/Social Studies students engage in debate and the writing of laws in a civics program.

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