

Grade Eight Curriculum

Language Arts

Grade Level Goals:

Capitalization and Punctuation

Students will:

1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English including spelling, capitalization, and punctuation including ellipsis.

Grammatical Structures

Students will:

1. Use grammatical structures and sentence structures listed in grades 1 through 7 curriculums proficiently in written work.

Parts of Speech

Students will:

1. Use parts of speech and verbals listed in grades 5 through 7 curricula in written work proficiently.

Listening Skills

Students will:

1. Apply the listening skills listed in grades K through 5 curricula to analyze the purpose of information from teacher selected topics and sources.

Vocabulary

Spelling

Students will:

1. Spell words based on eight grade reading and content.

Acquisition

Students will:

1. Expand working vocabulary and apply vocabulary skills to reading, writing, and oral applications based on eighth grade reading content.
2. Apply knowledge of word origin and derivations to comprehend words used across disciplines.

Literature

Literary Techniques

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Students will:

1. Interpret figurative and connotative language proficiently with grade level text.

Literary Elements

Students will:

1. Evaluate text through the use of literary elements.
2. Recognize author's influence and style on cultural content.

Comprehension Skills

Students will:

1. Apply comprehension skills listed in the K – 7 curricula to analyze grade level text.

Literary Genres

Students will:

1. Read, discuss and analyze culturally and historically diverse grade level appropriate literature.
2. Explain the difference between poems, drama and prose referring to the structural elements.

Informational Text

Text Structure

Students will:

1. Analyze how a sentence, paragraph or section supports the overall structure of a text.

Comprehension Skills

Students will:

1. Evaluate text evidence and judge which evidence most strongly supports analysis of text.
2. Assess whether reasoning is sound and evidence is relevant within a text.
3. Analyze conflicting information on the same topic from two or more texts.
4. Analyze and evaluate media techniques used to convey a message.

Vocabulary Skills

Students will:

1. Identify and define academic and subject specific words and phrases, including allusions and analogies, in a text relevant to eighth grade.

Speaking Skills

Students will:

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1. Use the public speaking skills listed in grades 1 through 5 curricula to adapt speeches in a variety of contexts and tasks.

Research Process and Reference Skills

Students will:

1. Select relevant and credible information from multiple sources to construct a presentation following a standard format using a variety of sources and avoiding plagiarism.

Writing

Writing Process

Students will:

1. Compose written work across all disciplines using the writing process.

Sentence

Students will:

1. Construct and use a variety of structures, including compound/complex sentences, in all writing applications.

Essay

Students will:

1. Write a research paper using citations from at least six sources following standard MLA style without plagiarism.
2. Compose arguments that support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence and distinguish from alternate or opposing claim.

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Math

Grade Level Goals:

The Number System

Students will:

1. Recognize irrational numbers, estimate their values, and approximate their location on a number line.

Expressions and Equations

Students will:

1. Apply the properties of integer exponents to generate equivalent numerical expressions.
2. Evaluate and solve square root and cube root equations.
3. Use numbers expressed in scientific notation to estimate and compare very large or very small quantities.
4. Perform operations with numbers expressed in scientific notation.
5. Graph, interpret and compare linear equations and the corresponding slopes.
6. Use similar triangles to find the slope of a linear equation on a coordinate plane.
7. Solve linear equations in one variable.
8. Solve a system of linear equations algebraically and estimate the value of the system graphically.

Functions

Students will:

1. Define a function as a set of ordered pairs.
2. Compare properties of two functions that are represented in different ways.
3. Recognize the equation of a linear function.
4. Use functions to model relationships between quantities

Geometry

Students will:

1. Compare two dimensional figures and determine if they are congruent or similar.
2. Explain facts about the angle sum of a triangle and the exterior angle measures. Determine the values of angle measures involving parallel lines cut by a transversal.
3. State and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
4. Solve real-world problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres.

Statistics and Probability

Students will:

1. Construct and interpret scatter plots and describe the pattern.
2. Estimate a best fit line for a group of data.
3. Interpret linear equations to solve real world problems

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4. Construct and interpret data using two categorical variables and identify any pattern of association.

Grade 8 Algebra

Student Level Goals:

Students will:

1. Understand the concepts of variable, expression, and equation.
2. Represent situations and number patterns with tables, graphs, verbal rules, and equations.
3. Analyze tables and graphs to identify properties and relationships.
4. Develop confidence in solving linear equations using concrete examples.
5. Investigate inequalities and nonlinear equations.
6. Apply algebraic methods to solve a variety of real-world and mathematical problems.
7. Solve quadratic equations by completing the square.

Grade Level Content:

1. Real Numbers
2. Variables
3. Equations
4. Polynomials and Factoring Polynomials
5. Fractions
6. Functions
7. Graphing and Solving Linear Equations
8. Inequalities
9. Rational and Irrational Numbers
10. Quadratic Functions
11. Problem solving

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Science

Grade Level Goals:

Students will:

1. Understand forces, motion, and energy.
2. Identify the different properties of matter.
3. Examine the nature of heat.
4. Understand the relationship of waves with light and sound.
5. Understand how machines make work easier.

Grade Level Content:

1. Newton's Laws of Motion
2. Scientific Method/Graphing (observation, inferences, hypothesis, independent/dependent variable, procedure, conclusion)
3. Law of Conservation of Energy
4. Buoyancy
5. Electromagnetic
6. Types and Characteristics of Waves
7. Design a Simple Machine
8. Measure Work, Power, and Mechanical Advantages
9. Phases of Matter
10. Heat Transfer

Social Studies / American History

Grade Level Goals:

Students will:

1. Communicate reasons for westward expansion, including the philosophy of Manifest Destiny.
2. Understand the social, economic and political structure in the North and South that led to the Civil War and the lasting effect that had on this country.
3. Understand the growth and change that took place in the U.S. in the late 1800s/early 1900s – including technology, business, lifestyle, and foreign policy.
4. Gain a knowledge of immigration and its effects on our nation, including how it affected them personally.
5. Create a PowerPoint presentation after researching family history.
6. Explain major events in the 20th century and the role that the U.S. played in them and the effects they had on the U.S.
7. Use knowledge of government process and apply it to solve a local problem.

Grade Level Content:

1. Settlement of the whole U.S. (Texas, Mexican War, Oregon)
2. Civil War (including events leading up to)
3. Reconstruction
4. Westward Expansion
5. Industrial Revolution
6. Spanish-American War
7. Immigration
8. World War I
9. 1920s
10. Great Depression
11. World War II
12. Later 20th Century

Religion

Grade Level Goals:

Students will:

1. Express openness to the Holy Spirit and a deeper understanding of the working of the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit in their lives.
2. Apply knowledge of Catholic teachings to moral decision making.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of and readiness to commit themselves to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.
4. Share their time, talent, and treasure in service to the community in response to the Gospel call.
5. Demonstrate respect for life from conception, through each stage of human development, to physical death.

Grade Level Content:

1. Confirmation
2. Creeds
3. Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit
4. Laws of the Church and Holy Days of Obligation
5. Ten Commandments
6. Law of Love
7. Beatitudes
8. Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy
9. Saints and Their Witness to the Faith
10. Prayers (Mastered: Prayer to the Holy Spirit)