globaltownschool

COURSE CATALOG
AUGUST 2026

MIDDLE SCHOOL
(6-8)

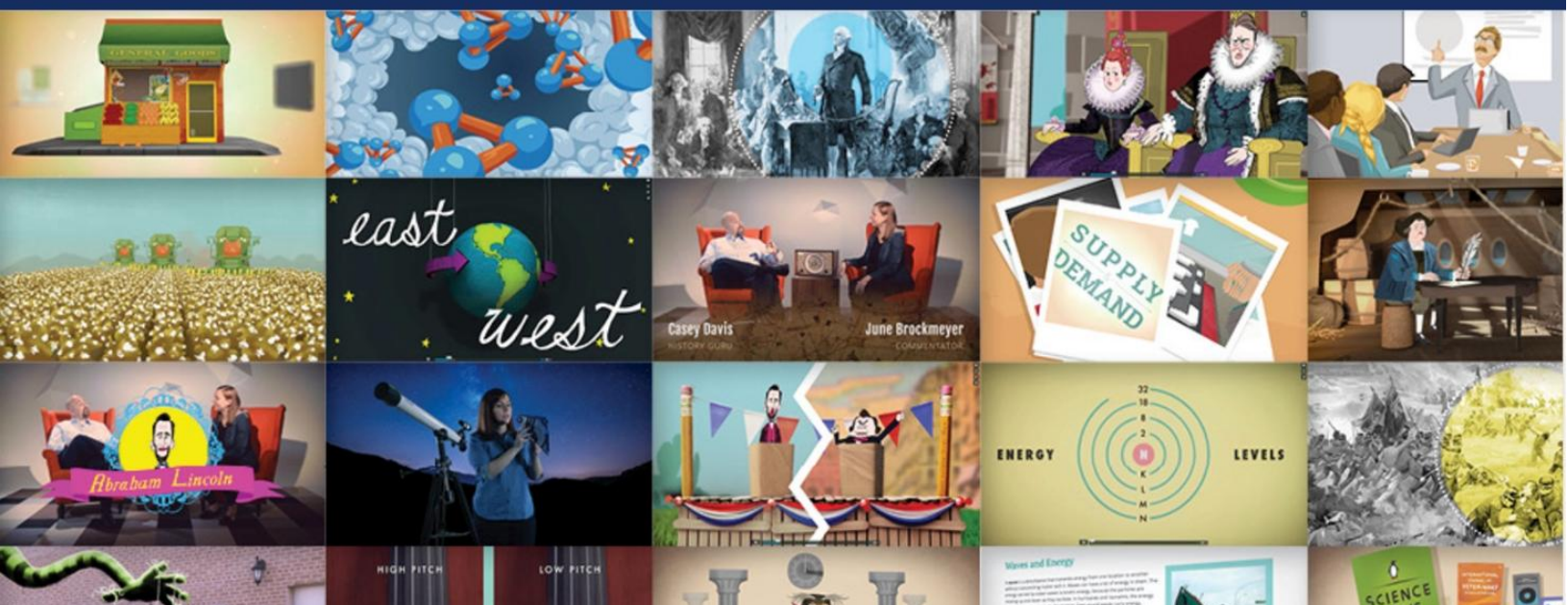

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH 6

Part I
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

English 6 Part I analyzes informational texts, including biographies, primary documents, instructional documents, film reviews, and persuasive letters. Reading selections include the novel The Road by Jack London and informational texts on topics such as the science behind sunsets, the lives of important historical figures, the history of the Olympics, and the process of flotation used by archaeologists. Reading selections demonstrate concepts such as explicit and implicit information, central ideas and key details, and claims and arguments. Writing projects include an informational essay and a research project.

Part II
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s):
English 6 Part I
Course Intro Video

English 6 Part II explores literary texts from various genres, including novels, short stories, poems, and plays. Readings include The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum, excerpts from Little Women and The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, and poetry by Robert Louis Stevenson, Robert Frost, and Carl Sandburg as well multimedia readings of several videos of famous poems to demonstrate explicit and implicit information, theme, characters, plot, poetic techniques, and figurative language. Writing projects include a narrative and a literary analysis.

ENGLISH 6 HONORS

Part I
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

English 6 Honors Part 1 analyzes informational texts, including biographies, primary documents, instructional documents, film reviews, and persuasive letters. Reading selections include the novel The Road by Jack London and informational texts on topics such as the science behind sunsets, the lives of important historical figures, the history of the Olympics, and the process of flotation used by archaeologists. Reading selections demonstrate concepts such as explicit and implicit information, central ideas and key details, and claims and arguments.

Honors includes additional examples and practice for students.

Part II
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s):
English 6 Honors Part I
Course Intro Video

English 6 Honors Part II explores literary texts from various genres, including novels, short stories, poems, and plays. Readings include The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum, excerpts from Little Women and The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, and poetry by Robert Louis Stevenson, Robert Frost, and Carl Sandburg as well multimedia readings of several videos of famous poems to demonstrate explicit and implicit information, theme, characters, plot, poetic techniques, and figurative language.

Honors includes additional examples and practice for students.

ENGLISH 7

Part I
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s):
English 6
Course Intro Video

English 7 Part I explores informational texts, including biographies, personal accounts of events, presidential speeches, persuasive letters, and descriptions of musical genres. Readings include The Story of My Life by Helen Keller and texts about historical figures such as Jane Goodall and Zora Neale Hurston. Selections are used as students identify explicit and implicit information, central ideas and key details, claims and arguments, and author's purpose. Writing projects include an informational essay and a persuasive letter.

Part II
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s):
English 7 Part I
Course Intro Video

English 7 Part II analyzes literary texts from novels, short stories, fairy tales, poems, and plays. Readings include Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll, excerpts from Black Beauty, and poetry by Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, and William Wordsworth. Selections are used as students examine how written texts are portrayed in film or audio, and practice concepts such as identifying explicit and implicit information, theme, characters, plot, poetic and dramatic techniques, and figurative language. Writing projects include a narrative and a literary analysis.

ENGLISH 7 HONORS

Part I
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s):
English 6
Course Intro Video

English 7 Honors Part I explores informational texts, including biographies, personal accounts of events, presidential speeches, persuasive letters, and descriptions of musical genres. Readings include The Story of My Life by Helen Keller and texts about historical figures such as Jane Goodall and Zora Neale Hurston. Selections are used as students identify explicit and implicit information, central ideas and key details, claims and arguments, and author's purpose. Writing projects include an informational essay and a persuasive letter. The honors version offers additional examples and practice.

Honors includes additional examples and practice for students.

Part II
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s):
English 7 Honors Part I
Course Intro Video

English 7 Honors Part II analyzes literary texts from novels, short stories, fairy tales, poems, and plays. Readings include Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll, excerpts from Black Beauty, and poetry by Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, and William Wordsworth. Selections are used as students examine how written texts are portrayed in film or audio, and practice concepts such as identifying explicit and implicit information, theme, characters, plot, poetic and dramatic techniques, and figurative language. Writing projects include a narrative and a literary analysis. The honors version offers additional examples and practice

Honors includes additional examples and practice for students.

ENGLISH 8

Part I
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s):
English 7
Course Intro Video

English 8 Part I explores the analysis of literary and informational texts, including novels, short stories, myths, poems, magazine articles, and autobiographies. Readings include The Call of the Wild, short stories such as "The Tell-Tale Heart," and infographics and videos. Selections are used to demonstrate explicit and implicit information, theme, central idea, figurative language, grammar, usage, and punctuation. Writing projects include planning, drafting, revising, and editing a fictional narrative.

Part II
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s):
English 7 Part I
Course Intro Video

English 8 Part II explores literary and informational texts, including novels, short stories, poems, articles, and political speeches. Readings include excerpts from Hatchet and Black Beauty, along with informational texts on topics such as global warming, fast food, the presence of corn in food, and how sleep affects learning. Texts, infographics, and videos supply instruction on explicit and implicit information, theme, central idea, figurative language, grammar, usage, and punctuation. Writing projects include an informational essay and an argument essay

ENGLISH 8 HONORS

Part I
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s):
English 7
Course Intro Video

English 8 Honors Part I explores the analysis of literary and informational texts, including novels, short stories, myths, poems, magazine articles, and autobiographies. Readings include The Call of the Wild, short stories such as "The Tell-Tale Heart," and infographics and videos. Selections are used to demonstrate explicit and implicit information, theme, central idea, figurative language, grammar, usage, and punctuation. Writing projects include planning, drafting, revising, and editing a fictional narrative. The honors version offers additional examples and practice.

Honors includes additional examples and practice for students.

Part II
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s):
English 8 Honors Part I
Course Intro Video

English 8 Honors Part II explores literary and informational texts, including novels, short stories, poems, articles, and political speeches. Readings include excerpts from Hatchet and Black Beauty, along with informational texts on topics such as global warming, fast food, the presence of corn in food, and how sleep affects learning. Texts, infographics, and videos supply instruction on explicit and implicit information, theme, central idea, figurative language, grammar, usage, and punctuation. Writing projects include an informational essay and an argument essay. The honors version offers additional examples and practice.

Honors includes additional examples and practice for students.

INTENSIVE READING

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

Intensive Reading explores foundational reading skills for middle-school students to remediate gaps in reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and vocabulary skills, grammar skills, and writing fluency through responses to a variety of literary and informational texts..

MATHEMATICS

MATH 6

Part I
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

Math 6 Part I builds on previously learned operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with whole numbers. Topics include arithmetic with fractions; operations with decimals and negative numbers; ratios and rates; unit conversions; and geometric applications such as area, surface area, and volume. The course applies these skills to real-world problems.

Part II
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s): Math 6 Part I
Course Intro Video

Math 6 Part II explores operations on expressions with whole numbers and positive rational numbers, including expressions with exponents and grouping symbols. Topics include writing, simplifying, and solving basic expressions and equations in one variable; writing simple inequalities and representing solution sets on a number line; using tables, equations, and graphs to represent two-variable relationships; collecting and representing data with dot plots, histograms, box-and-whisker plots, and stem-and-leaf plots; describing data using range, mean, median, interquartile range, and mean absolute deviation; identifying nets; and calculating volumes and surface areas

MATH 6 HONORS

Part I
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

Math 6 Honors Part I builds on previously learned operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with whole numbers. Topics include arithmetic with fractions; operations with decimals and negative numbers; ratios and rates; unit conversions; and geometric applications such as area, surface area, and volume. The honors version offers additional examples and practice.

Part II
Grade: 6
Prerequisite(s): Math 6 Part I
Course Intro Video

Math 6 Honors Part II explores operations on expressions with whole numbers and positive rational numbers, including exponents and grouping symbols. Topics include writing, simplifying, and solving expressions and equations in one variable; inequalities and solution sets; representing two-variable relationships; collecting and representing data with dot plots, histograms, box-and-whisker plots, and stem-and-leaf plots; describing data using measures of center and spread; identifying nets; and calculating volumes and surface areas. The honors version offers additional examples and practice

MATH 7

Part I
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s): Algebra I
Course Intro Video

Math 7 Part I explores adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing rational numbers using analogies, number lines, rules, and properties. Topics include solving problems involving proportional relationships represented in tables, diagrams, graphs, equations, and verbal descriptions; scale drawings; circles; angle relationships; areas and volumes; three-dimensional shapes; and drawing geometric figures.

Part II
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s): Math 7 Part I
Course Intro Video

Math 7 Part II explores operations with rational numbers using different methods. Topics include interpreting proportional relationships and equivalent expressions; writing and solving linear equations and inequalities to address real-world problems; comparing two data sets from random samples using measures of center and variability to draw conclusions about populations; and solving geometric problems involving area, surface area, volume, and cross-sections of two- or three-dimensional objects

MATH 7 HONORS

Part I
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s): Algebra I
Course Intro Video

Math 7 Honors Part I explores adding and multiplying rational numbers by using number lines, rules, and properties. Topics include: how to solve problems by finding and comparing unit rates, writing expressions using properties, writing and solving simple linear equations using different methods, probability and statistics to interpret and calculate simple probabilities, and populations and samples. Geometry topics include solving problems involving scale drawings, circles, and angle relationships.

Part II
Grade: 6-7
Prerequisite(s):
Math 7 Part I
Course Intro Video

Math 7 (2 of 2) explores subtracting and dividing rational numbers by using different methods to perform four operations. Topics included: interpreting proportional relationships and equivalent expressions, writing and solving linear equations and inequalities to solve real-world problems, comparing two data sets of random samples using center values and variability measures to make conclusions about populations. Geometry topics include solving problems that involve the area, surface area, volume, and cross-sections of two- or three-dimensional objects.

MATH 8

Part I Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s): Math 7
Course Intro Video

Math 8 Part I explores rational and irrational numbers, solving linear equations from contextual situations, and analyzing properties of functions with a focus on linear functions.

Part II
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s):
Math 8 Part I
Course Intro Video

Math 8 Part II explores multi-step equations and proportions, applies knowledge of proportional relationships to geometry to perform transformations on figures, and prove similarity of figures through a series of transformations. Topics include: analyzing linear relationships and functions, solving systems of linear equations using different methods, application of algebraic skills to statistics, analyze and interpret patterns in bivariate data, and finding volumes of circular three-dimensional objects.

MATH 8 HONORS

Part I Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s): Math 7
Course Intro Video

Math 8 Honors Part I explores rational and irrational numbers, solving linear equations from contextual situations, analyzing properties of functions with a focus on linear functions, and scientific notation. Geometric topics include rigid transformations on figures and proving congruence of figures through a series of rigid transformations.

Part II
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite(s): Math 8 Part I
Course Intro Video

Math 8 Honors Part II explores multi-step equations and proportions, applies knowledge of proportional relationships to geometry to perform transformations on figures, and prove similarity of figures through a series of transformations. Topics include: analyzing linear relationships and functions, solving systems of linear equations using different methods, application of algebraic skills to statistics, analyze and interpret patterns in bivariate data, and finding volumes of circular three-dimensional objects.

PRE-ALGEBRA

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Pre-Algebra is a one-semester math course to build algebraic foundation to prepare students for Algebra I. Topics include: reviewing integers and rational numbers, properties of numbers and working with exponents and roots, mastering the order of operations, variables, how to simplify expressions and solve multi-step equations, lines and linear equations, ordered pairs, the coordinate plane, and graphs..

SCIENCE 6

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

MS Physical Science Part I examines concepts from the fields of chemistry, biology, and ecology. The relationship between matter, energy, and chemical reactions is explored to understand cellular respiration and photosynthesis, while synthetic materials are analyzed to see how they impact society.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
Science 6 Part I
Course Intro Video

MS Physical Science Part II investigates concepts from ecology and geology to explore the interactions between and among organisms in an ecosystem. Topics covered include types of rocks, the rock cycle, and Earth's resources to explore how Earth's processes can lead to natural hazard events and severe weather, and then discover how technology can help during disasters, as well as other benefits of technology.

SCIENCE 7

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Science 7 Part I investigates how living organisms harness energy, grow, and interact with their environment. Topics include how plants convert sunlight into food; how matter and energy move through ecosystems; how chemical reactions support life; Earth's dynamic processes, including weathering, erosion, and plate tectonics; climate patterns and natural hazards; comparison of digital and analog signals for reliable communication; and realworld solutions to minimize human impact on the planet.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
Science 7+ Part I
Course Intro Video

Science 7 Part II explores energy, forces, the Earth-sun-moon system, gravity, cells, body systems, reproduction, and genetics. Topics include how kinetic energy relates to mass and speed; how gravitational and magnetic forces affect objects; lunar phases, eclipses, seasonal patterns, planetary motion, and galaxy formation; living organisms, cell structures, and body-system interactions; and plant and animal reproduction, genetic mutations, heredity, and environmental influences on growth

SCIENCE 8

Part I
Grade: 8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Science 8 Part I explores Earth and life science. Topics include fossils, rock layers, and geological data to uncover Earth's history; shifting tectonic plates; how traits in organisms evolve due to genetics, environmental influences, and natural selection; weather and climate patterns, including how air and ocean currents shape Earth; and hands-on problem-solving connecting these concepts to real-world issues.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
Science 8 Part I
Course Intro Video

Science 8 Part II examines the relationships between genetics, environmental change, and human impact on Earth's systems. Topics include population patterns, artificial selection, and genetic variation and how they influence traits over time; factors contributing to climate change; analysis of greenhouse gas effects and temperature shifts; the effects of human activity on ecosystems and resource consumption; and sustainability solutions evaluated through data analysis and hands-on investigations. Critical thinking and scientific reasoning are emphasized through inquiry-based exploration of real-world environmental challenges

MS GLOBAL STUDIES: EASTERN HEMISPHERE +

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

Global Studies: Eastern Hemisphere Part I explores the geography, history, and cultures of early civilizations in Africa, Asia, and Europe. Topics include how historians and geographers study the past using maps, primary sources, and historical evidence; early human societies from the Stone Age to the Agricultural Revolution; the development of permanent settlements and early communities; and major civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China, with focus on governments, religions, economies, and achievements. The course examines the relationship between geography, trade, and conflict to explain how these civilizations developed and interacted.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): MS Global Studies: Eastern Hemisphere Part I
Course Intro Video

Global Studies: Eastern Hemisphere Part II explores the geography, history, and cultures of classical antiquity and medieval civilizations across Europe, Africa, and Asia. Topics include the rise and fall of Greece, Rome, the Byzantine Empire, and the Islamic world, including their governments, economies, religions, and cultural achievements; the impact of geography on trade, war, and cultural exchange; the spread of ideas, technologies, and belief systems; the development of feudal societies; the Crusades; and the Renaissance. Students draw connections between historical events and their lasting influence on the modern world through historical inquiry and critical thinking.

MS INTEGRATED GLOBAL STUDIES

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None

Integrated Global Studies Part I explores important historical events and geographic ideas that have shaped the world today. Topics include how historians and geographers study the past using maps, primary sources, and other tools to find patterns and connections; the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment; major revolutions including the American, French, Latin American, Russian, and Chinese; industrialization and new inventions that transformed daily life; and the effects of historical events on the modern world.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): MS Integrated Global Studies Part I

Integrated Global Studies Part II explores the key historical, political, and economic forces that have shaped the modern world. Topics include the Great Depression, the rise of dictatorships, and the causes and consequences of World War II, including the Holocaust and global war crimes; the Cold War, its political tensions, technological rivalries, and effects on daily life; how geography influences conflicts and global interactions, from environmental changes to the role of technology; government systems, public policy, and economic principles; and how decisions are made and affect communities.

MS CIVICS

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

Civics Part I explores government and citizenship in the United States. Topics include the founding documents of the US government, including the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution; the structure and functions of the US government; the rights and responsibilities of American citizens; the rule of law in a democratic society; how popular movements have sought to change American society and its institutions; human rights around the world; and how global conflicts can unite and divide people.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): MS Civics Part I
Course Intro Video

Civics Part II explores the foundations of government, citizenship, and the role of individuals in shaping society. Topics include how geography, history, and economics influence government policies and decision-making, from resource management to environmental issues; how political, social, and economic factors shape communities and impact public policy at local, national, and global levels; civic engagement through community service and service learning projects; economic principles, financial literacy, and the role of trade, taxes, and government regulations in everyday life; and the responsibilities of citizenship and the power of informed decision-making

MS CIVICS AND ECONOMICS

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

MS Civics and Economics Part I examines the general structure and functions of the US systems of government, the roles and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system. Topics include: The Declaration of Independence, analysis of the principles US Constitution and the debates surrounding its ratification, examining validity of sources, landmark Supreme Court cases, and the voting process.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
MS Civics and Economics Part I
Course Intro Video

MS Civics and Economics Part II explores the economic structures for individuals, businesses, and government; the examination of how institutions influence the market economy; and how government interacts and influences the private sector. Topics include: personal finance, preparing a personal budget, national budget, analysis of interest rates, investing, debt, influence of natural resources on economies, trade, market systems, taxes, labor, and regulatory agencies.

MS SPANISH 1

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

MS Spanish 1 Part I introduces the basics of the Spanish language by learning through reading, writing, listening, and speaking about personal interests and hobbies, asking for directions, and discovering the cultures of some Spanish-speaking countries, such Mexico and Colombia.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
MS Spanish 1 Part I
Course Intro Video

MS Spanish 1 Part II explores how to discuss activities with friends, using vocabulary associated with restaurants, traveling, vacations, and exploring cultures of some Spanish-speaking countries, such as Argentina, Spain, and Peru.

MS SPANISH 2

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

MS Spanish 2 Part I explores how to discuss school subjects, various professions, and daily routines through practice reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The course also explores cultures of some Spanish-speaking countries, such as Venezuela and Chile.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
MS Spanish 2 Part I
Course Intro Video

MS Spanish 2 Part II explores how to discuss illness and injury, shopping, and money through reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The course also explores cultures of some Spanish-speaking countries, such as Ecuador, Guatemala, and Cuba.

MS HEALTH

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Middle School Health (1 of 1) explores how behavioral choices, such as nutrition and physical activity, affect health, then provides information to make healthy choices. Topics include: nutrition and physical activity; growth, development, and sexual health; safety and injury prevention; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; mental, emotional, and social health; and personal and community health.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 6

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Physical Education 6 explores fitness, nutrition, exercise basics, and specific sports. Topics include fundamental aspects of physical activity (safety tips, warm-up and cooldown exercises, and good sportsmanship), personal fitness and nutrition, and the importance of regular exercise to encourage lifelong healthy activity. Sports in the course include dance, baseball, basketball, pickleball, volleyball, soccer, and football. Project 1 creates a health and fitness log and project 2 explores the basics of golf.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 7

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Physical Education 7 explores the importance of physical fitness for good health and provides opportunities to participate in a wide variety of activities. Topics include running, strength training, dancing, swimming, pickleball, tennis, volleyball, baseball, bowling, basketball, soccer, and football. Other activities include keeping an exercise and nutrition log and creating an exercise routine for themselves, as well as the importance of warming up and cooling down muscles before and after exercise, health-related verses skill-related fitness, goal setting, and safety.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 8

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Physical Education 8 explores personal health and wellness benefits of physical fitness with a variety of activities, a fitness and nutrition log, and two projects. Project one creates a personal fitness plan and project two creates a synchronized swim routine. Topics include endurance and flexibility applied in activities such as running, hiking, stretching, and dancing, as well as improving fitness and well-being with heart-rate monitoring, nutrition tracking, and interval training. Sports skills are practiced in pickleball, tennis, soccer, hockey, football, baseball, basketball, and bowling.

ART APPRECIATION

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

What makes an artwork a masterpiece? Why do artists create art? What is the difference between Rococo and Art Nouveau? In this course, students will discover the answers to these questions and more. We examine the elements of art and principles of design, and explore how artists have used these elements and principles in the creation of art for centuries.

BEGINNING PAINTING

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

This course introduces students to classical and contemporary painting, techniques and concepts, with emphasis on the understanding of its formal language and the fundamentals of artistic expression. Painting from still life, landscape, and life models from observation will be geared towards realism; at the same time, various other painting styles could be explored. Color theory, linear perspective, compositional structure, figure/ground relationships, visual perception, spatial concepts, and critical thinking skills will all be emphasized. Students will study and research major painting styles and movements in historical context. The hope is that students will use this global approach to develop a "critical eye" in evaluation of contemporary painting. Acrylic and watercolors are the mediums used in this class. The main emphasis of this course is to encourage and nourish individuality and creativity.

CAREER EXPLORATION

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Career Explorations provides instruction and practice about various topics in the world of work. These topics include jobs, careers, labor markets, traditional and nontraditional occupational roles, ethical and unethical behavior, educational pathways to careers, budgeting, communication in the workplace, and technology in the workplace. There is a short project on problem-solving skills as well as a project on searching for a job, preparing a resume and cover letter, and interviewing for a job.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

Character Education explores values of truthfulness, trustworthiness, responsibility, diligence, and integrity. The course offers specific, real world situations to interpret and connect to these traits to provide safe and appropriate ways to respond in real time. Topics include: identifying bullying, how to develop a bullying-prevention mindset.

COMPUTER BASICS

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

In Computer Basics (1 od 1), you will learn how to use productivity and collaboration tools, such as G Suite by Google Cloud to create word processing documents, spreadsheets, surveys and forms such as personal budgets and invitations.

DIGITAL SAVVY

Part I and Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None

Digital Savvy (1 of 2) is a one-year (two-semester) course covering required topics in most introductory "Information Technology" classes. Students should have minimal computer usage skills (e.g. keyboarding, mouse, and operating system navigation) prior to starting this course. The course material is designed to appeal to a variety of students, from traditional learners who thrive on written text to audio-visual students who enjoy a multi-media format. All content is delivered through an online system that allows students to work seamlessly both in the classroom and at home. Every chapter contains one or more hands-on activities that allow students to practice and demonstrate understanding of the lesson topics. A Windows or Mac OS computer is required for completion of the hands-on activities.

BASIC DRAWING

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None

In Basic Drawing, students will experiment with several different art materials and tools to see what each tool can do best. Students will explore ordinary things around them to become more observant of the structures and meanings of things which can be seen in your their home and community. Your work will be your own study of the forms, textures, movements, and patterns of the things that you see every day.

Each project and each lesson is based on the one before it; so always do the lessons in the order they are given. Be sure to follow the directions exactly regarding which materials, sizes, and subject matter to use for each project. Each lesson will be a study of a new way of drawing. The examples given will show only the method and materials to be used, never the same subject or size as the project assigned. The examples are never to be copied. An example will only show one way of using the technique described.

By becoming more observant, by experimenting with new materials, and by exploring a variety of methods, students will continue to grow in artistic skill and enjoyment. Beyond fundamental skills are various levels of creativity. Each lesson provides room for expressing the technical skill learned in a unique, creative way.

GAMING UNCLOCKED

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None
Course Intro Video

Gaming Unlocked (1 of 1) researches the basics of gaming, from what makes games fun to what makes them work by exploring quality in a variety of games such as mental games, board games, and video games.

This course does not require students to know or learn a programming language. The emphasis is on the history and design of games and the different careers available in the game industry.

PHYTON MULTIPLAYER ADVENTURE

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s): None

Python Multiplayer Adventure allows students to learn Python by first completing a text based console game and then turning it into a multiplayer adventure! Students will not only learn Python from going through the individual lessons and video reviews but also understand a client server relationship. They will get to code in their own python web server that allows connections through a browser. Students will gain experience using variables, classes, functions, lists, dictionaries, generators and proper Python formatting. Our Python online course is great for anyone interested in preparing themselves for future coding classes. This course assumes no coding experience and includes self graded quizzes and tests.

INTRODUCTION TO CODING

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Introduction to Coding Part I introduces the basic syntax and logic of writing in JavaScript. Topics include: the three types of data: strings, numbers, and Boolean, and their variables; performing operations on variables; basic operations are followed by logic operations and control structures. The course concludes with using procedures to simplify repeated code.

Part II
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
Introduction to Coding Part I
Course Intro Video

Introduction to Coding Part II builds on the basic JavaScript concepts from Introduction to Coding Part I as it explores troubleshooting, testing, and debugging of programs. Topics include: the practices of different types of code documentation, as well as giving and receiving feedback from both users and other developers. The process of solving complex problems is modeled from beginning to end as problems are broken down into smaller pieces and addressed through planning, coding, and putting the pieces together to solve the larger problem.

JAVASCRIPT GAME DESIGN

Part I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

JavaScript will teach students JavaScript through coding multiple computer games including, pong, fish, a platformer and tower defense! They then will code or customize their own game! Students will be writing all the code themselves from going through the individual lessons and watching the video reviews. They will learn about variables, functions, listening events, loops, arrays and objects. This course assumes no coding experience and includes self graded quizzes and tests. Students will also upload their work at the conclusion of each project while creating an online portfolio.

MS ART EXPLORATIONS

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

Arts Explorations encourages students to experience each of the modern arts disciplines including Visual Arts, Theatre, Music, Media Arts and Dance. Students will also be able to identify areas of special interest where they would like continued study and the ways that the arts can be a part of their career paths.

MS PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Photography Basics explores proper use of photography equipment, how to build a portfolio of work, and describes the steps to starting a career in this field. Topics include: the habits and etiquette of the profession.

*Photography equipment is not needed. Practice is offered through digital simulations.

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

Students will gain a thorough understanding of music by studying the elements of music, musical instruments, and music history, as well as music advocacy. Students will be introduced to the orchestra and composers from around the world. They will be required to be a composer, performer, instrument inventor, and advocate.

ROBLOX WORLD CODING WITH LUA

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

Roblox Worlds Coding with LUA teaches students practical skills for understanding and managing their emotions, setting goals and getting organized, understanding and getting along with others in our diverse world, and making good decisions. Research shows that people who practice these skills have greater academic achievement as students and experience more success and satisfaction as adults.

SCRATCH CODING

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

Scratch Coding (1 of 1) introduces the basics and logic of programming language in Scratch. Topics include introducing and using the different tools in Scratch; creating programs that include loops, variables, lists, or conditionals; and identifying and fixing errors in a program. The course concludes with putting the tools and concepts altogether to create a larger program.

3D GRAPHICS AND VIDEO

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

3D Graphics and Video explores digital art, how life relates to art, and how individual works of art are interpreted. Topics include design principles, types and common applications of digital artwork, and techniques for brainstorming and developing an artistic idea, artistic mediums (3D computer graphics, animation, digital video, and digital audio). Supporting topics include expression, purpose, meaning, ethics, testing, critique, improvement, presentation, and distribution in the creation and use of digital media. Course projects include the creation of a digital animation and a piece of digital audio.

2D MEDIA ARTWORK

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None

3D Graphics and Video explores digital art, how life relates to art, and how individual works of art are interpreted. Topics include design principles, types and common applications of digital artwork, and techniques for brainstorming and developing an artistic idea, artistic mediums (3D computer graphics, animation, digital video, and digital audio). Supporting topics include expression, purpose, meaning, ethics, testing, critique, improvement, presentation, and distribution in the creation and use of digital media. Course projects include the creation of a digital animation and a piece of digital audio.

KEYBOARDING

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Keyboarding (1 of 1) focuses on the skills needed to improve typing speed and accuracy for formatting, typing, and editing letters, articles, and reports. Topics include proper hand and finger placement, posture, the touch-typing technique, file management, reliable electronic sources, and keyboarding and computer terminology. Course projects include a log to track typing progress and typing a research article.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite(s):
None
Course Intro Video

Computer Applications (1 of 1) explores online networks and software. Topics include word-processing software; organizing data; selecting the correct digital tools; analyzing data; visual representation of data; and troubleshooting software and operating systems. Additional topics include safe digital citizenship, data security, intellectual property, file management, and intellectual-property rights.

Please note that accelerated learners and academically advanced students can take high school courses while in middle school.

Please inform your coach if you are interested in taking any high school courses in middle school.

GTS Administration