

Maple Creek Middle School 2023-2024

Grade 6

MATHEMATICS

Accelerated Math 6 - Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon a CogAt score in the 95th percentile or above, or NWEA score in the 85th percentile or above, and a teacher recommendation based on daily classroom performance.

Summary: Comprehensive development of mathematical skills and topics including: problem solving, whole numbers, decimals, fractions, integers, rational numbers, geometry, ratios, proportions, percents, and solving equations using transformations. This course is for the advanced 6th grade student who has demonstrated a high-level of performance in math class with above average problem solving and computational skills in whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percents.

* Students earning a “C+ or lower” in the first semester will be re-evaluated prior to starting the second semester of Accelerated math. Following a teacher recommendation and parent approval, they will be moved to the Math 6 curriculum.

Math 6 -Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Comprehensive development of mathematical skills and topics including: problem solving, whole numbers, decimals, fractions, graphing, measurement, geometry, ratio, proportion, percent, integers, area and volume. Each lesson taught is designed to challenge students and still provide enough supplemental instruction for the students who need additional work with math skills.

Math Boost 6 - Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This course will focus on remedial math skills that students need to be successful in grade level math. The course will include whole group instruction, small group instruction, individualized attention via technology including IXL and NWEA supports.

ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS and READING

Accelerated English/Language Arts 6: - Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon a CogAt score in the 95th percentile or above, or an NWEA score in the 85th percentile or above, and a teacher recommendation based on daily classroom performance.

Summary: This pre-advanced placement course is intended to prepare students for future honors-level and advanced placement classes. Students will be engaged with in-depth and rigorous coursework that focuses strongly on analyzing and synthesizing a variety of texts. The writing focus in this course will teach students how to write for varied purposes while preparing them for writing in advanced courses in the future.

Language Arts 6: Language and Reading-Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Language and Reading are linked classes in sixth grade. This means the students will have one grade and be in class with the same peers for both Language and Reading. The language portion of the class will include grammar, speaking, writing, and media citizenship. Rules of grammar will be reviewed and will include sentence structure, pronouns, verb tenses, and prepositions. Writing and speaking skills are an integral part of studying language in the sixth grade. Students will learn and understand the writing process, planning, drafting, and conventions. Students will be expected to learn essay structure that includes introductory, middle, and concluding paragraphs, and they will learn to use topic sentences appropriately. Students will be expected to write for various purposes and audiences. The different writing genres will include narrative, expository, argumentative, the research process, and speeches. A poetry unit will also be included in their study this year. Through learning, writing, and reciting poetry, the students will study the use of figurative language. Speaking skills will be taught through presenting several oral assignments over different topics.

Reading instruction during the school year will utilize paperback books, magazines, reading online information, informational text, basal text, and numerous other reading materials so students are exposed to different genres. Independent reading will also be an important requirement of the reading curriculum. Skills that will be covered include compare and contrast, clarifying main ideas, theme, characters, settings, plots, point of view, and vocabulary through reading different types of fiction and nonfiction text throughout the school year.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6 -Duration: one semester

Summary: Social Studies Grade Six Students in grade six compare the history, geography, government, economic systems, current issues, and cultures of the Western World with an emphasis on: (1) Europe, (2) North America, (3) South America, (4) Central America, (5) and the Caribbean region. Instructional programs for grade six students include experiences that foster the passage from concrete examples to abstract reasoning, concepts, ideas, and generalizations. Opportunities to develop skills include the use of a variety of resources and activities. grade six students should acquire positive attitudes regarding active participation, cooperation, responsibility, open-mindedness, and respect for others. Along with the current academic standards for this subject, the History/Social Studies Content Area Literacy Standards are incorporated with the expectation of a continuum of reading and writing skills development. **This one-semester course** should be taught to students during the first semester of their sixth grade year.

Civics 6 – Duration one semester.

Summary: Grade Six Students explain major principles, values, and institutions of constitutional government and citizenship, which are based on the founding documents of the United States and how the three branches of government share and check power within our federal system of government. **This course is taught during the second semester of the sixth grade six year.**

SCIENCE

Science 6: Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Sixth grade Science is a two-semester course that incorporates the Indiana Academic Standards for Science – 2022. The students will use science notebooks to help develop, practice, and refine their science understanding, while also enhancing reading, writing, mathematics and communications. These notebooks contain information about the students' classroom experiences and students are encouraged to use them as scientists would, before, during, and after all investigations. They are a place where students formulate and record their questions; make predictions; record data, procedures, and results; compose reflections; and communicate findings. Some studies include: light and sound waves, computer science, space, and diversity of life examining the differences between living things.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical /Health 6-Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: The sixth grade physical education program is designed to use skills learned in elementary lead-up games to play regulation games while emphasizing improvement in both fine and gross motor movements. The rules needed to play the games are taught and the students take short, very basic tests over the rules. The team sports include softball, soccer, speed-a-way, ultimate Frisbee, flag football, ultimate football, volleyball, basketball, and scooter hockey. Also, large group games and activities such as mat ball, treasure hunt and capture the ball are used along with the individual sports and lifetime activities of badminton and table tennis. To complete the program, a unit involving cooperative learning will be offered.

The sixth grade students also receive a basic introduction to the middle school fitness program in the L.I.F.E. room (Learning Involves Fitness in Education) and they work out in the L.I.F.E. lab approximately twice a week on aerobic equipment and strength-training equipment. The strength-training program for sixth grade students is strictly limited to low weight with an emphasis on proper form and repetitions.

The sixth grade PE/Health curriculum includes topics related to healthy lifestyles including social, emotional and physical health; age-appropriate hygiene; introduction to the body systems and medical occupations. Social/emotional health topics include but are not limited to positive communication, anxiety, and Grit.

ELECTIVES

Art 6 - Duration: one nine week period

Summary: The sixth grade art course is designed to make the student aware of the basic art elements and how these elements can be combined to create aesthetically pleasing artworks. The student will be using a variety of media and learning how to manipulate these mediums to improve his/her artistic talent. Some of these areas include color, drawing, painting, construction, printmaking, and art history. Each lesson is planned to build upon the previous lessons. The student will use information learned in earlier projects to aid them in creating a qualitative art object. The sixth grade art student will obtain a general understanding of the elements and principles in art.

Art Enrichment Year Gr 6 - Duration: All year.

Summary: This course is designed to further develop artistic techniques and mediums beyond the regular art rotation. **Some of the areas of study are design, painting, construction, and art history. Through these studies,** students will explore new techniques, mediums, and art styles to gain artistic knowledge.

Band 6 -Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Fifth grade level band instruction and/or instructor approval

Summary: The band rehearses daily for one period, stressing total musicianship. Grades are based on practice time, written tests, playing tests and attendance at performances. The band performs at five major concerts and at the ISSMA band contest.

Concert Choir – Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Open to any Maple Creek student who enjoys singing and would like to learn a variety of vocal styles. Grades are based on class projects, musical tests, participation in class, and attendance at all performances. The choir will perform at several different events throughout the school year: Fall Concert in October, Winter Musical in December (presented by the Concert Choir Students), Bobcat Coffee House in January, ISSMA Choir Contest in March, and Fine Arts Concert in May. The Concert Choir will also be traveling to the King's Island Theme Park in May to participate in the Music in the Parks Choir Festival. A calendar with concert and contest dates will be handed out at the beginning of the school year.

General Music 6- Duration: one nine week period

Summary: Sixth grade general music class will meet for a nine-week period. Students will actively participate in class through a variety of musical experiences. The following musical concepts will be integrated within the class: rhythm, melody, harmony, form and cultural context. Students will practice these concepts by singing, playing, creating, and listening. The main objective is to involve students in a positive musical experience.

Geography 6 - Duration: one nine week period

Summary: This course will take students through the continents while learning about the physical geography, cultural geography, and political geography while also focusing on basic map skills.

Introduction to Computers 6- Duration: one nine week period

Intro to Computers is designed to familiarize students with computers and their main applications. Students will learn correct keyboarding technique as well as fundamental concepts of computer hardware and software. In addition students will become familiar with a variety of computer applications, including word-processing, spreadsheets, and multimedia presentations. Students will even begin to investigate and learn about some introductory computer programming skills with the program Scratch.

Sports and Leisure 6- Duration: one-nine week period

Summary: This course will familiarize student with basic leisure time sports to improve or maintain health and socialization throughout life.

Study Hall/Enrichment 6 - Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Students will have time to study and work independently on homework assignments as well as academic enrichment activities.

*** All courses will reflect the Indiana Standards**

Special Education Courses

Basic Skills Math- Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This math class is for 6,7,8th grade students who are on modifications for math skills. This class WILL replace their math class at their grade level. It is a year-long class designed to aid in basic skills in math.

Basic Skills English- Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This English/Language Arts class is for 6,7,8th grade students who are on modifications for language skills. This class WILL replace their English/Language Arts class at their grade level. It is a year-long class designed to aid in basic skills in reading and writing.

Reading Intervention- Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This class is for 6,7,8th grade special education students that struggle with decoding and the skills for reading. This will NOT replace their English/Language Arts class but is a supplement to allow the development of reading skills. This is a year-long class to build reading skills.