

Sixth Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

READING

Word Analysis and Systematic Vocabulary Development

- use word, sentence, and paragraph clues to determine meaning of unknown words in informational and narrative text
- identify and interpret figurative language and multiple-meaning words

Comprehension

- clarify understanding of text by creating outlines, notes, summaries, or reports
- make reasonable judgments about the text and support with examples and details
- identify the structural features of popular media (magazines, internet, newspapers) and use them to obtain information

Literary Response and Analysis

- identify the forms of fiction and describe the major characteristics of each form
- identify the effect of the qualities of the characters on the plot and the resolution of the conflict
- identify the speaker and recognize the difference between first- and third- person narration
- analyze the influence of setting on the problem and its resolution

WRITING

Applications

- use the stages of the writing process with ease
- write well-organized responses to literature that show a clear understanding of what has been read
- write a multiple-paragraph composition that states a clear purpose, develops the topic with details, precise verbs, nouns, adjectives, and concludes with a summary
- write narratives that establish and develop a plot, characters, setting, and uses a range of narrative devices
- write research reports that support the main idea(s) with facts and examples from multiple sources and include a bibliography

Research and Technology

- use organizational features of electronic text to locate information
- use word processing skills to compose documents

Spelling

- spell assigned words correctly
- spell high frequency words correctly in all written work
- spell frequently misspelled words correctly (their, they're, there, belief, receive, etc.)

Penmanship

- use neat, legible manuscript and cursive writing in all written work

Language Conventions

- use simple, compound, and compound-complex sentences
- identify and use verb tenses, subject-verb agreement with compound subjects, and indefinite pronouns
- use correct capitalization in all written work

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

- deliver focused and coherent narrative, informative, and persuasive presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background of the audience
- ask thoughtful questions of a speaker to clarify what has been heard
- restate and execute multiple-step oral instructions and directions
- use effective rate, volume, pitch, and tone when delivering a presentation

Mathematics

Number Sense

- compare and order positive and negative fractions, decimals, and mixed numbers
- solve problems involving ratios
- solve problems using proportional reasoning
- solve problems involving percentages
- add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions
- solve problems involving both positive and negative numbers

Algebra and Functions

- solve one step linear equations
- solve problems of rates, average speed, distance, and time
- apply algebraic order of operations and the commutative, associative, and distributive properties to solve problems

Measurement and Geometry

- know the formulas for and calculate the circumference and area of a circle
- know π (commonly as 3.145)
- use the properties of complementary and supplementary angles and the sum of the angles of a triangle to solve problems involving an unknown angle

Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability

- represent all possible outcomes for probability experiments in an organized way on tables, grids, and tree diagrams
- analyze and predict outcomes using data from probability experiments
- represent probabilities as ratios, proportions, decimals between 0 and 1, and percentages between 0 and 100 and verify that the probabilities computed are reasonable
- identify different ways of selecting a population sample and which method makes it more representative
- analyze data displays and explain why the way in which the question was asked might have influenced the results and why the way in which the results were displayed might have influenced the conclusions reached
- identify data that represent sampling errors and explain why the sample might be biased
- identify claims based on statistical data and, in simple cases, evaluate the validity of the claims
- understand the difference between independent and dependent events

Science

History - Social Science

Earth Science – 1) Plate tectonics accounts for important features of Earth’s surface and major geologic events. 2) Topography is reshaped by the weathering of rock and soil and by the transportation and deposition of sediment.

Physical Science – 1) Heat moves in a predictable flow from warmer objects to cooler objects until all the objects are at the same temperature. 2) Many phenomena on Earth’s surface are affected by the transfer of energy through radiation and convection currents.

Life Science – 1) Organisms in ecosystems exchange energy and nutrients among themselves and with the environment. 2) Sources of energy and materials differ in amounts, distribution, usefulness, and the time required for their formation.

Investigation and Experimentation – Scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. Students are expected to formulate a hypothesis for the first time. They should develop their own questions and conduct investigations to prove or disprove their hypotheses.

World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations

Early Humankind and the Development of Human Societies

The Beginnings of Civilization in the Near East and Africa: Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush

The Foundation of Western Ideas: The Ancient Hebrews and Greeks

West Meets East: The Early Civilizations of India and China

East Meets West: Rome