



SIXTH GRADE

Your sixth grader will learn the following knowledge and skills. These academic benchmarks will be used to track your child's learning progress and determine his/her grades.

Over the course of this school year, teachers will be using these benchmarks to prepare lessons, projects, and assessments to guide your child's learning and help him/her achieve grade level expectations for our district.

If you have questions about the curriculum, feel free to contact:

Your child's teacher;

Jim Finley or Jason Zielinski, Building Administrators at West De Pere Middle School (920-337-1099);

Amy LaPierre, Director of Curriculum (920-337-1393)



LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading Literature

- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says
- Determine a theme or central idea and how it is conveyed; summarize without opinions
- Describe how a story's plot unfolds in a series of episodes and how characters change
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings
- Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text
- Explain how an author develops point of view
- Compare and contrast experiences of reading, listening to, or viewing a story
- Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres with similar themes or topics

Reading Informational Text

- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says
- Determine a central idea and how it is conveyed; summarize without opinions
- Analyze how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated and elaborated
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings
- Analyze how a sentence, paragraph, chapter or section fits into the overall structure of a text
- Determine author's point of view or purpose and how it is conveyed
- Integrate information presented in different formats
- Trace and evaluate argument and claims in a text
- Compare and contrast different author's presentation of events

Writing

- Write arguments
- Write informative/explanatory texts
- Write narratives
- Develop and strengthen writing through the use of the writing process

- Use technology to produce and publish writing, as well as to interact and collaborate with others

Research and Inquiry

- Conduct short research projects using several sources
- Gather information from multiple print and digital sources; assess credibility of sources; quote or paraphrase to avoid plagiarism; provide basic bibliographic information
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research

Speaking and Listening

- Engage effectively in one-on-one, group, and teacher-led discussions
- Interpret information presented in diverse formats
- Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims
- Present claims and findings, using appropriate eye contact, volume, and pronunciation
- Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify information
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts, demonstrating formal English when appropriate

Language (Writing/Speaking)

- Use pronouns correctly
- Use correct spelling and punctuation
- Vary sentence patterns
- Maintain consistency in style and tone
- Build vocabulary



MATHEMATICS

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems

The Number System

- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples
- Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the number system of rational numbers

Expressions and Equations

- Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
- Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities
- Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables

Geometry

- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume

Statistics and Probability

- Develop understanding of statistical variability
- Summarize and describe distributions



SCIENCE

Earth and Space, Engineering

Space Systems

- Show and describe the movement patterns of the sun, moon, and earth
- Show and describe how gravity affects the movement in galaxies and the solar system
- Gather information to find relative sizes of objects in the solar system

History of Earth

- Describe how rock formations are used to date major geological events
- Explain how geological events have changed Earth over time and space
- Analyze geological features (fossils, seafloor trenches, etc.) to prove that earth plates have moved over time

Earth's Systems

- Show how Earth's materials move and flow and what causes these processes
- Show how the sun and gravity cause water to change on Earth
- Explain how an imbalance in Earth's resources are caused by geological processes

Weather and Climate

- Show how the movement of air masses affect the weather
- Show how unequal heating and rotation of the earth determine a region's climate
- Investigate why global temperature has risen in the past century

Human Impacts

- Understand why natural disasters happen, when they could happen again, and what can be done to reduce their effects
- Propose ways to minimize human impact on the environment
- Describe how human population affects Earth's resources

Engineering Design

- Taking into account the effect on people and the environment, define how successful a design solution will be and what limitations it will have
- Compare two or more design solutions to determine how successful they will be and what limitations they have
- Create a new design solution that has the best characteristics from several existing design solutions
- Improve an object (or tool/process) based on gathered data of testing the object repeatedly



SOCIAL STUDIES

Global History (6000 BCE – 1400 CE)

Map Skills

- Use a variety of maps, globes, and pictures to gather and compare information
- Gather information from a variety of sources
- Know the location of regions, states, countries, major bodies of water and mountain ranges
- Create maps

Cradles of Civilization

- Understand the cradles of civilization (Fertile Crescent, Egyptian, Chinese, Indian, Mayan, Inco, Crete)
- Know the natural resource bases of the world

Ancient Africa

- Know how environmental effects of the earth impact short-term physical changes

Mesopotamia and Ancient Asia

- Know how environmental effects of the earth impact long-term physical changes
- Know the contributions of various racial and ethnic groups

Ancient Americas

- Know how the past can be interpreted using a variety of sources (artifacts, fossils, remains, written records)

Ancient Europe

- Know how structures and their decorations reflect cultural values and ideas
- Understand how laws are developed
- Understand how governments are established and maintained
- Understand and defends a position of concern

Early Middle Ages (Spread of World Religions)

- Know that culture influences people
- Know that differences in cultures may lead to understanding or misunderstanding among people
- Know how the needs of individuals and society are met

Late Middle Ages

- Understand the benefits and uses of money
- Know the role of economic institutions
- Know significant events and people in the major eras of world history