



SEVENTH GRADE

Your seventh 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 several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says
- Determine a theme or central idea and how it is developed; summarize objectively
- Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings
- Analyze how a drama's or poem's form or structure contributes to meaning
- Analyze how an author develops and contrasts points of view of different characters or narrators
- Compare/contrast a written story, drama or poem to its audio, filmed, staged or multimedia version
- Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal and a historical account

Reading Informational Text

- Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says
- Determine two or more central ideas and analyze their development; summarize objectively
- Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings
- Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text
- Determine author's point of view or purpose and how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others
- Compare and contrast a text to an audio, video or multimedia version
- Trace and evaluate argument and specific claims in a text, assessing if reasoning is sound
- Analyze how two or more authors write about the same topic

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, to interact and collaborate with others, and to link to and cite sources

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; use standard form for citation
- 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
- Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse formats and how they clarify the issue
- 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 claims and findings and emphasize points
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts, demonstrating command of formal English when appropriate

Language (Writing/Speaking)

- Explain the function of phrases and clauses and use them correctly in sentences
- Choose among simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to signal relationships among ideas
- Use correct spelling and punctuation
- Choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, eliminating wordiness and redundancy
- Build vocabulary



MATHEMATICS

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems

The Number System

- Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers

Expressions and Equations

- Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions
- Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations

Geometry

- Draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them
- Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume

Statistics and Probability

- Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population
- Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations
- Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models



SCIENCE

Life Science,
Engineering

Structure, Function, and Information Processing

- Show that living things are made of one or more cells (and one or more types of cells)
- Describe how a cell works as a whole and how different parts of a cell work together
- Explain how the body is one system composed of subsystems, which are composed of groups of cells
- Know that sensory receptors send messages (from stimuli) to the brain for an immediate reaction or to store as a memory

Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems

- Explain the role of photosynthesis and how it affects organisms
- Describe how food is turned into energy in organisms
- Show how a resource's availability affects an organism and its population in an ecosystem
- Describe how energy flows between living and non-living things in an ecosystem
- Describe how changes in an ecosystem affect populations of organisms

Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems

- Explain how organisms interact with each other in different ecosystems
- Compare ways to maintain biodiversity (e.g., water purification)

Growth, Development, and Reproduction of Organisms

- Explain how characteristics of organisms affect its likelihood to reproduce
- Explain how environmental and genetic factors affect an organism's growth
- Describe why gene mutations on chromosomes affect an organism
- Describe why asexual reproduction creates identical genetic material and why sexual reproduction creates genetic variation
- Know about the technologies used to modify inherited traits

Natural Selection and Adaptations

- Using present natural laws, analyze the changes of fossil records from the past
- Compare organisms from the past and present to determine an organism's evolution
- Compare pictures of different species' embryos to find patterns in development before an organism is fully formed

- Describe how genetic traits affect survivability and reproduction ability
- Explain how natural selection affects specific traits

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

World History
(1400 CE – 1650 CE)

Map Skills

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

The Renaissance and the Reformation

- Explain how structures and their decoration reflect cultural values and ideas
- Know how the past can be interpreted using a variety of sources
- Know the factors that contribute to change and continuity in society
- Know how socio-economic factors may lead to conflict among people
- Know how artistic expression reflects the beliefs of a culture
- Know how major discoveries in science and technology impact the physical and human environments

Absolutism and Kings

- Understand how governments are established and maintained
- Explain difference between absolute government and democratic government
- Understand services provided by the government

Exploration, African Slave Trade, South & Central America

- Understand how people in different regions of the world interact with their physical environment
- Understand and defend a position on an issue of concern
- Know the risks and rewards with starting a business
- Know the natural resources bases of the world

Colonization of America

- Know that differences in cultures may lead to understanding or misunderstanding among people
- Know the strategies of conflict resolution
- Know the factors that influence wages of workers
- Know about the movement of people, ideas, diseases, and products through the world
- Identify significant people and events in the major eras of world history