

Grade 7

Description of Seventh Grade Courses

- Computer Education
- Library Skills
- Art
- Communication Arts and Reading
- Health and Physical Education
- Home and Career Skills
- Mathematics
- Science
- Foreign Languages
- Social Studies
- Technology Education

Computer Education

- uses word processing and desktop publishing programs to develop language and writing skills
- creates and works with a file using a simple database program
- uses a basic program to develop typing skills

Library Skills

- selects suitable resources for poetry, quotations, fiction, biography, current events, and information on specific subjects
- infers facts and ideas from reading, listening, and viewing
- paraphrases information

Art

- makes comparisons between contemporary and classical uses of space and structure and relates these uses to the needs of various cultures
- produces spatial designs to demonstrate that space can be defined
 - demonstrates knowledge of color theory
- observes and produces visual patterns having distinct rhythms/speeds
- recognizes and identifies the contributions of artists from diverse cultures

Communication Arts and Reading

- reads and speaks expressively, clearly, and with

appropriate body language

- explains how accents affect pronunciation, how careful listening may be necessary to get the meaning of words, and how the use of voice and body language differ culturally
- compares factual information, understands author's point of view and techniques of persuasion, differentiates between fact and opinion
- uses the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, conferring, editing, publishing) to produce pieces that contain ideas, description, and information using proper punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphs, and organizations

Health and Physical Education

- relates fitness, endurance, muscular strength to efficiency in daily tasks
- participates in culminating activities and team tournaments, including noncompetitive and competitive play
- appreciates and understands the importance of mental health and family living including sex education, drug and substance abuse, alcohol, smoking, disease prevention and control, consumer health, safety and first aid, and environmental and community health

Home and Career Skills

- develops skills that lead to effective decisions, problem solving, and management in the home, school, community, and workplace
- studies personal development and relationships to others

- learns about responsible management of personal and family money, nutrition, clothing, personal environment, and consumer choices
- plans for high school, examines careers, and is introduced to world of work

Mathematics

- makes and tests conjectures; makes and supports generalizations
- explains the difference between "experimental" and "theoretical" probability
- explains and uses algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities to generalize patterns and solve problems
- finds and uses square roots

Science

- understands the characteristics, organization, and needs of living things
- understands the concept of microbiology, including: bacteria, viruses, immunizations, antibiotics
- understands the varied systems of the body, including the skeletal, nervous, circulatory, endocrine, excretory, and reproductive

Second/Foreign Languages

(Second language study usually begins at the sixth or seventh grade and continues into high school through various checkpoints in the way to fluency)

- Checkpoint One

- understands simple statements and questions
- holds a conversation using questions and answers
- understands simple short, general messages
- writes a paragraph or short composition about himself or herself
- becomes aware of and better understands other cultures

- Checkpoint Two

- understands short conversation about everyday situations
- begins to carry out a conversation using limited vocabulary
- reads and understands simple stories
- writes simple notes, letters, and short reports
- continues to increase awareness of, begins to appreciate, and develops greater understanding of other cultures

- Checkpoint Three

- understands the important points of discussion of familiar topics
- initiates and holds a conversation in which more complex ideas are expressed
- reads and understands more sophisticated stories
- writes short letters and notes that native speakers of the second language are able to understand
- respects, appreciates, and becomes more knowledgeable about other cultures

Social Studies

- discusses the political, economic, and social development of the United States, New York State, and New York City through 1870
- understands the development of Canada and Mexico and their impact upon the development of the U.S., including: the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, westward expansion, and the American Civil War
- understands the impact of westward expansion from the perspectives of various cultural groups, including Native Americans
- understands the political, social, and economical causes of the Civil War and its impact on diverse racial and cultural groups
- studies the structures of our federal, state, and local government

Technology Education

- learns to plan ahead and design solutions to problems, using the 7 resources of daily life: humans, information, materials, tools and machines, energy, capital, and time
- applies math, science, and other academic skills to problem solving