

## Literacy

### OVERVIEW

*Middle school ELA curriculum focuses on building strong reading, writing, and communication skills. Your child will read a variety of texts, such as novels, short stories, and informational articles, and will learn to analyze and interpret these texts to develop a deeper understanding of the author's purpose and message. They will also develop their writing skills, including learning how to write for a variety of purposes and audiences. In addition, your child will work on their speaking and listening skills through class discussions and presentations.*

### Benchmarks Learned:

- Reading: Students will learn to analyze the structure of texts, determine the meaning of words and phrases, identify themes and central ideas, analyze the development of characters and plots, and draw evidence from texts to support their analysis.
- Writing: Students will learn to develop cohesive claims supported by evidence, effectively preview and present information, and maintain point of view when writing.
- Speaking & Listening: Students will learn to evaluate the relevance and accuracy of the information presented.
- Grammar & Vocabulary: Students will learn to use commas, phrases, and clauses correctly as well as how to vary sentence structure in their writing.

# SEVENTH GRADE

## Literacy

### Helpful Home Tips:

- Encourage your child to read books that interest them, whether it's fiction or nonfiction. Provide a variety of print and digital reading materials, such as books, magazines, and newspapers.
- Encourage your child to write regularly, whether it's in a journal, blog, or creative writing project.
- Encourage your child to express their ideas and opinions, and practice listening actively to others.
- Play word games and puzzles, such as crossword puzzles and Scrabble, to make learning new words fun.

# SEVENTH GRADE

## Math

### OVERVIEW

*Seventh-grade math covers four key areas: ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, and geometry. Students learn about percentages, proportions, operations with integers, algebraic expressions, equations with variables, geometric shapes and their properties, and critical thinking skills to solve real-world problems.*

### **Benchmarks Learned:**

- Proportional relationships between quantities, using percentages to describe changes, and the relationship between operations with integers, whole numbers, and rational numbers.
- Rewriting expressions and using equations to solve problems.
- Describing objects with geometry, measuring objects to solve problems, and using samples to gain information about a population.

# SEVENTH GRADE

## Math

### Helpful Home Tips:

- Discuss real-life scenarios such as speed-time graphs for travel, or receipts that can be adjusted for more or fewer people. Scale a recipe and ask your child to determine the ratio of ingredients needed. Have your child help with the budget to help teach addition and subtraction with positive and negative numbers.
- Relate equations to real-life situations. For example, if you're planning a family trip, have your child set up equations to calculate expenses, distances, or time spent traveling.
- Engage in art activities that involve geometric shapes and patterns, such as tessellations or using string art. Work on DIY projects that involve measurements, such as building a bookshelf or assembling furniture. Conduct surveys with family and friends to gather information on various topics.



# SEVENTH GRADE

## Social Emotional Learning

### OVERVIEW

*In 7th Grade, students continue to learn about growth mindset and goal setting. They will learn additional ways to recognize and manage strong emotions and unhelpful thoughts. In addition, they learn more about developing and maintaining healthy relationships.*

### Skills:

- Demonstrate empathy and articulate others points of view.
- Contribute ideas in a team setting and listen to others.
- Provide support and encouragement to others in need.
- Distinguish between positive and negative peer pressure.
- Problem-solving interpersonal conflicts.
- Identify and apply the steps of systematic decision-making
- Understand others' differences and respect them.

# SEVENTH GRADE

## Social Emotional Learning

### HELPFUL HOME TIPS:

- Encourage participation in afterschool activities.
- Engage in regular conversations about emotions, being careful not to tell them how to feel.
- Talk through problems, logical consequences and resolution.
- Set clear expectations and stick to them
- Encourage when good decisions have been made.

# SEVENTH GRADE

## Social Studies

### **OVERVIEW**

*Social Studies in 7th grade encompasses several units each connected to a broad period in our nation's early history. Each unit is designed around an inquiry approach to teaching and learning. This approach connects the practices and concepts used by social scientists to the broad period being focused on in the unit.*

### **Benchmarks Learned:**

- United States History beginnings through 1877

# SEVENTH GRADE

## Social Studies

### Helpful Home Tips:

- Watch or read news stories about current events. Ask your child about their opinions and thoughts about the topic.
- Encourage your child to read historical fiction or nonfiction books.
- Take virtual or in-person trips to museums.
- Encourage your child to get involved with local philanthropic organizations.



# SEVENTH GRADE

## Science

### OVERVIEW

*Seventh grade science curriculum encompasses a broad range of abilities that are essential for understanding, exploring, and applying scientific concepts. These skills are interrelated and often reinforced through hands-on experimentation, inquiry-based learning, and real-world applications. Developing strong science skills not only fosters scientific literacy but also nurtures critical thinking, problem-solving, and lifelong learning abilities that are valuable in various academic and professional pursuits.*

### Benchmarks Learned:

- Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.
- Develop and use a model to describe the function of a cell as a whole and ways parts of cells contribute to the function.
- Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increase some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.
- Use mathematical representations to support explanations of how natural selection may lead to increases and decreases of specific traits in populations over time.
- Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increases some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment
- Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems