



AISL Grade Six Syllabus

Literacy

By the end of sixth grade, students are aware of the author's craft. They are able to adjust their purpose, pace, and strategies according to difficulty and/or type of text. Students continue to reflect on their skills and adjust their comprehension and vocabulary strategies to become better readers. Students read, discuss, reflect, and respond, using evidence from text, to a wide variety of literary genres and information text. Students read for pleasure and choose books based on personal preference, topic, genre, theme, or author.

The student will:

- * Interpret and synthesize information.
- * Develop an understanding of the foundations of argument.
- * Critically analyze print and non-print communication.
- * Use effective sentence construction and edit for improvements in sentence formation, usage, mechanics, and spelling.
- * Interpret and evaluate a wide range of literature.

Social Studies/African Studies

The six grade students will learn about those people and events that ushered in the dawn of major Western and non-western civilizations. Included are the early societies of the Near East and Egypt, the ancient Hebrew civilization, Greece, Rome, and the classical civilizations of India and China. Students will examine factors that affected the developments of these civilizations, observing how major beliefs, social organization, and technological developments of an earlier era were carried through the centuries and have contributed to our own life. The student will understand the similarities and differences within and among cultures in different societies as well as the relationships that exist due to culture borrowing. In addition, sixth graders will analyze a variety of ancient governments and build an understanding of these early societies function. Students will learn about the significance of geographic place in the development of human story. They will acquire a sense of everyday life of the people and their relationships to the developing social, economic, and political structures of their society. Six grade students will also explore the art of ancient civilization, their explanations for natural phenomena, and the ideas they developed that helped transform the world. The students will become actively involved in both the cultural and physical geography of the world around them. They will conduct research on various topics and issues introduced in social studies. They will apply critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources.

African Studies: Six grade students will continue to study past and present day Nigeria. They will examine the similarities and differences among identified ethnic groups, and their historical relationships. Government, natural resources, and foreign influences will be studied and compared to other countries and civilizations

Math

Six grade students will further develop an understanding of the concepts related to numbers, operations, reasoning, and algebraic thinking. They will practice computational skills to solve increasingly complex problems using whole numbers, decimals and fractions. They will understand geometric properties and concepts and apply this knowledge to analyze situations and solve problems. Students will demonstrate an understanding of graphs, charts, mathematical probability, and fundamentals of statistics. They will use calculators and computers as tools as well as appropriate strategies to solve problems. They will continue to use measurement and estimation procedures to solve mathematical problems.

Science

In science, six grade students begin to recognize the relationship between explanation and evidence. Students will engage in full and in partial inquiries in order to develop the knowledge and skills to conduct scientific investigations. They will use a variety of methods and tools to conduct scientific inquiry in order to analyze social/environmental and technological problems. They will begin the study of earth science with a unit on Astronomy by describing the life cycle of a star and investigating the “Big Bang” theory and how the universe is constantly changing. The earth science unit will also include methods paleontologists used to find clues from the past, using fossils to provide such information. In life science, students will study structure, functions, characteristics, and DNA of living organisms. In physical science, students will study the properties of matter, acids, and bases. They will also be studying Newton’s three laws of motion. Six grade students will also be learning about the human nervous system and the negative effects that tobacco, marijuana, and alcohol have on the body.

P.E.

In the six grade students will acquire knowledge and skills for movement to facilitate a foundation for enjoyment, social development, and better fitness. Students understand in greater detail functions of the body and will learn to measure their own performance more accurately and develop plans for improvement.

Arts

Students at this grade level learn to generate original ideas for their artwork. They learn to achieve expressive work by incorporating principles of design such as balanced unity and variety. Lessons emphasize efficient, expressive uses of media.

Technology

Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum.

Grade six students will be able to determine when technology is useful and select the appropriate tools and technology resources to address a variety of tasks and problems. They will produce a multi-page documents with graphics, when appropriate, pagination, title page, and bibliography. They will be able to edit and proof read documents for language mechanics and spelling. Grade six students will continue to use word processing to assist in all stages of the writing process, prewriting, organizing, drafting, revising, editing and publishing. They will use graphic organizers to assist the writing process. They will use telecommunications and on line resources.

French

Grade six students will study French entertainment and art including selected famous works of art. They will expand their vocabulary to be able to describe the art and artists. They will review major geographic features and be introduced to the major regions of France. They will be able to engage basic conversation to give and receive information, express needs and feelings and respond to questions and requests. They will write compositions to describe, report, or inform. They will improve reading and listening comprehension.

Library

Grade six students will expand their use of resources to complete assignments. They locate materials independently to determine the best resource for the project. They continue to evaluate work for originality and accuracy and. Library and research skills are coordinated with the grade level curriculum and are taught by the librarian within the assigned class time and the classroom teacher.

Exploratory

It is an extension of the P.E. program. It is based on building a basis for healthy leisure activity for life. Students will build up stamina, endurance, and proper breathing techniques.

Band

The Intermediate Band in Grade 6 offers students the opportunity to learn music through performance of a band instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion, etc.) and to perform in an ensemble. It is designed for students who have at least one year of performance experience on a band instrument. The course provides experiences in playing instrument(s), reading music, listening to music, improvising and composing music. It develops the ability to read music and notate music.