



Sixth Grade Benchmarks

Middle School Habits of Mind

- Engagement: Participates fully and collaboratively in school, community, and academic life.
- Integrity: Exhibits ethical behavior and honesty, providing service for the common good.
- Responsibility: Takes care of self, others, and the school as a learner, friend, advocate, and citizen.
- Reflection: Thinks constructively and critically, contemplating the learning and actions of self and others.
- Resilience: Demonstrates persistence while working through challenges.
- Flexibility: Questions the world from varying perspectives, adapting prior knowledge to generate new solutions.

Sixth Grade Science

- Understands and applies the steps of the Scientific Method
- Develops own scientific vocabulary
- Applies scientific method to own experiment
- Uses models to accurately depict scientific concepts or principles
- Participates in the Blue Oak Science Fair
- Gains familiarity with the characteristics of all living organisms
- Able to accurately use appropriate scientific equipment: microscopes, triple beam balances, etc
- Demonstrates knowledge of the structure and function of animal and plant cells

Sixth Grade Mathematics

- Demonstrates an understanding of general mathematical sense
- Applies understanding of basic skills while working with fractions
- Shows recognition and understanding while working with positive and negative integers
- Understands basic skills and demonstrates ability to solve problems while working with decimals
- Understands and applies knowledge while solving word problems
- Shows knowledge and applies skills when creating, measuring and solving for volume and surface area of basic geometric shapes: triangle, prisms, spheres, cylinders, etc.
- Shows recognition and understanding while collecting and analyzing data and while creating graphical presentations of their findings

Sixth Grade Humanities

Reading:

- Reads and prepares for class discussion
- Determines the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in texts and vocabulary study
- Understands and identifies literary devices

- Demonstrates the ability to select important information from a text
- Annotates text with guidance
- Demonstrates comprehension by summarizing, analyzing, and forming opinions based on textual evidence
- Demonstrates comprehension by asking and answering both literal and interpretive questions

Writing:

- Employs prewriting, editing and revising to complete work
- Follows the conventions of standard English grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Writes stories that show clear storyline and descriptive details
- Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events
- Writes informative pieces to explain a topic
- Writes arguments to support a position
- Writes poetry that incorporates classic poetic techniques
- Writes in complete sentences that vary in length, structure and vocabulary
- Writes a paragraph that includes a topic sentence and supporting details
- Writes a well-organized short essay with a clear beginning, middle and end
- Uses domain specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic

Speaking and Listening:

- Makes statements and asks questions that show relevant thinking
- Engages in class discussions
- Communicates effectively in a variety of settings
- Demonstrates effective presentation skills using a variety of mediums

Social Studies:

- Organizes information in note form when prompted
- Identifies fact, opinion, and bias
- Conducts short research projects to answer a question, drawing on provided sources
- Provides basic bibliographic information for sources
- Demonstrates understanding of content and key concepts in current units
- Engages in interactive projects in a manner that shows preparation and responsibility

Sixth Grade Physical Education

- Demonstrates the motor skills and movement patterns needed to perform a variety of physical activities.
- Combine relationships, levels, speed, direction, and pathways in complex individual and group physical activities
- Strikes an object consistently, using an implement, so that the object travels in the intended direction at the desired height.
- Throw an object accurately and with applied force, using the underhand, overhand, and sidearm movement (throw) patterns.
- Analyze and correct errors in movement patterns.
- Participate productively in group physical activities
- Sportsmanship (Winning/Losing)
- Participates productively in Sports Games

- Participates productively in Fitness Activities
- Describe the role of physical activity and nutrition in achieving physical fitness.
- Overall Attitude

Sixth Grade Music

Instrument Competency

- Demonstrates beginning to intermediate technique on applied instrument

Ensemble

- Performs as part of an ensemble and works with other members of the group

Music Theory

- Demonstrates an understanding of basic music fundamentals and terminology, including an understanding of music notation

Rhythmic Competency

- Maintains a steady beat while singing and/or playing an instrument

The Student:

- Maintains focus during lessons and uses class time productively
- Shows respect for the instruments and equipment
- Participates fully and shares musical ideas

Sixth Grade Visual Art

- Explores creative solutions to an assignment
- Uses constructive feedback and critique to engage in the artistic process
- Sustains effort throughout a process
- Analyzes and selects artistic work for presentation discussion/critique
- Demonstrates an understanding and reflection of their own artwork.
- Shows awareness and perception of culture and how it reflects in works of art

Sixth Grade Spanish

- Accurately responds to basic conversational questions
- Expresses feelings, emotions, agreement and disagreement in the target language
- Begins to make affirmative and negative statements on familiar topics
- Recalls previously taught vocabulary
- Begins to express possession using singular possessive adjectives
- Talks about things and activities he/she likes and doesn't like to do
- Uses adjectives to describe people, animals and places
- Uses interrogative words to ask questions
- Begins to use the correct conjugations for -AR, -ER, -IR regular verbs in the present tense
- Begins to use the correct conjugations for the irregular verbs "Ser" and "Estar" (Verb "To Be") in the present tense
- Begins to understand written language on a variety of basic topics
- Begins to present basic information in the target language