

Social Studies

Social Studies is divided into four strands; civics and government, economics, geography, and history. In Sixth Grade these strands are studied through the study of World Geography.

Through studying various locations around the world students will gain content knowledge as well as an understanding of concepts, skills, and processes such as:

- Location refers both to absolute location indicated by longitude and latitude and to relative location, indicated by direction, distance, or travel time.
- The concept of place refers to the physical and man-made characteristics of a place such as a town or city.
- Human Environment Interaction encompasses the many ways in which people have adapted to their surroundings or altered them for economic reasons.
- The movement of people, goods, and ideas within an environment is ever changing and fluid.
- Region refers to ways of categorizing areas of the earth, such as by climate, religion, language and/or ethnicity.

Science

Science is divided into three primary areas; life, earth & space, and physical. In Grade 6 the primary area of study is Earth Science.

Through the study of Earth Science students will gain content knowledge as well as an understanding of the following concepts, skills, and processes including:

- Understand how living things interact within their environment.
- Understand how energy and matter flow and cycle through ecosystems.
- Understand basic facts about earthquakes and volcanoes and how they have shaped the land.
- Understand about earthquake hazards and safety.
- Understand why the Earth's crust moves.
- Understand the properties of minerals.
- Understand the rock cycle.
- Understand how weathering and erosion have affected the Earth's surface, which includes forces of water, glaciers and wind.
- Describe and measure matter.
- Understand the particles of matter.
- Understand how matter changes.
- Understand the importance of preserving the Earth's natural resources and energy sources in air, on land, or in water.

Our mission is to be a continuously improving, learning community, providing quality services to enable all children to master the knowledge and competencies necessary to function skillfully throughout life.

WINDHAM



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Wildcats

Curriculum Brochure

Sixth Grade

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School Administrative Unit 95

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English Language Arts

English Language Arts (ELA) comprises four areas; reading, writing, language, and speaking & listening. Within these four areas there are many categories, which when all brought together encompass student literacy.

In Sixth Grade, these are the skills and understandings we focus on in each area:

Reading:

- Read longer and more challenging texts with an eye towards analyzing how the chapters, scenes, or stanzas work together to tell a story. In non-fiction, attend to diagrams and illustrations to increase understanding of the content.
- Identify and judge and author's point of view and evidence, look critically at information and its source.

Writing:

- Write extended opinion, informational, and narrative pieces with details and proper grammar, spelling and punctuation which are several paragraphs in length.
- Complete research projects that include several sources and a tightly focused question.
- Use a computer to produce writing pieces and presentations.

Language:

- Use words specific to content areas such as “photosynthesis” and “equation”.
- Rely on context and background knowledge to determine the meaning of unknown words.
- Produce complex sentences in order to express meaning or entertain the reader.

Speaking and Listening:

- Paraphrase information and analyze a speaker's evidence during discussions.
- Actively participate in classroom discussions by being prepared and thoughtful about the topic being covered.
- Present claims, opinions, and information learned from media and books through formal presentations, using multi-media to support the presentation.

Mathematics

In reasoning Grade 6, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) Understand ratio concepts and use ratio to solve problems (e.g. If it took 7 hours to mow 4 lawns, at that rate, how many lawns could be mowed in 35 hours?); (2) extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking. Additional time will be spent on the following skills and understandings:

- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions.
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples.
- Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities.
- Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables.
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

