

Social Studies

Social Studies is divided into four strands; civics and government, economics, geography, and history. In Seventh Grade these strands are studied through the study of Early Civilizations from BC to 1450.

Through the study of Early Civilizations students will gain content knowledge as well as an understanding of concepts, skills, and processes such as:

- Understand the purpose of government and how governments are established and organized.
- Understand the influences of early governments, especially in Greece and Rome, on the organization of the United States government.
- Understand how economic systems formed and changed in past civilizations based on the availability of resources, level of technology attained, transportation systems, and supply and demand.
- Understand the patterns and results of trade among civilizations in the past, which led to economic interdependence among cultures.
- Understand the historic relationships between people and their environments.
- Understand the chronology and significant developments of European and Middle Eastern history from ancient times through the mid-16th century.
- Develop an ability to analyze and interpret historical data to gain a more balanced understanding and appreciation of history and its uses in contemporary situations.

Science

Science is divided into three primary areas; life, earth & space, and physical. In Grade 7 the primary area of study is Life Science.

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

- Describe the functions performed by organelles in a cell and how they work together to carry out the activities of life.
- Enhance understanding of cells by comparing bacterial, plant, and animal cells using microscopes.
- Understand the organization of the human body through the study of various systems and how they work together.
- Describe the features and functions of the skeletal, muscular, digestive, circulatory, and respiratory systems.
- Evaluate how viruses and bacteria impact our lives in both positive and negative ways.
- Utilize computers and technology to research infectious diseases.
- Observe microscopic organisms in the lab to identify different types of bacteria.
- Understand the principles of probability and how Mendel applied them to genetics.
- Identify the characteristics all living things share and how changes in the environment would affect species' ability to survive.
- Understand why scientists organize living things into groups.

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

Seventh Grade

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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 Seventh 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 advance the plot. In non-fiction, attend to the author's point of view and bias when presenting information.
- Cite evidence from the text, or multiple texts, to support analysis of the story or topic.

Writing:

- Write extended opinion, informational, and narrative pieces with details and proper grammar, spelling and punctuation which are several pages in length.
- Complete research projects that include several sources and a tightly focused question.
- Cite evidence using proper techniques (e.g., footnotes, bibliography).
- Use a computer to produce writing pieces and presentations.

Language:

- Use common, grade level Greek and Latin prefixes, roots, and suffixes to define the meaning of a word. (e.g., semi, semiannual, semicircle).
- Rely on context and background knowledge to determine the meaning of unknown words.

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

Students in Seventh Grade are placed into one of two math classes: Grade 7 Math or Pre-Algebra.

Grade 7 Math: Students develop an appropriate math vocabulary, problem solve employing different strategies, use variables accurately and comfortably, think about math concepts and discover the relationships among different sets of numbers.

Problem Solving and Reasoning: Create and solve real life problems, solve multi-step problems using multiple strategies, use ratio and proportion for problem solving.

Numbers and Number Theory: Evaluate multi-step algebraic expressions, solve one step equations, find subsets of rational and whole numbers and how they relate.

Geometry and Measurement: Identify geometric forms and shapes and their properties, calculate perimeter and area for triangles and quadrilaterals.

Data Analysis: Calculate measures of central tendency, create data with given measures of central tendency, prepare and interpret visual presentation of data.

Patterns and Functions: Become comfortable in the use and representation of variables, begin to make the transition.

Pre-Algebra: Students in this course learn the skills and concepts included in Grade 7 Math in addition to the following. Students acquire skills in problem solving using multiple steps with a variety of strategies, use mathematical reasoning to identify information that will help solve a problem, communicate, in both writing and orally, mathematical strategies and operations, use grade level math vocabulary in writing equations to make connections for real world applications.

