

Eighth Grade Overview

First Semester

Second Semester

English

COMPOSITION

- Vocabulary development
- Figurative language
- Concise writing
- Comparative essay
- Persuasive writing
- The writing process

LITERATURE

- Plot and character development
- Textual evidence
- Story themes
- Foreshadowing
- Story structures
- Poetry

COMPOSITION

- Timed essay
- Writing a book review
- Timeline of biographical events
- Interviewing skills
- Writing in verse

LITERATURE

- Story predictions
- Literary comparisons
- Summarizing a plot
- Biography/autobiography
- Differing character perspectives

Social Studies

- Qualities of good citizenship
- Community leaders
- Decision making
- Immigration and citizenship
- Disability awareness
- Personal and public health

- Political heritage and governing structures
- Landmark cases of the U.S. Supreme Court
- Civic debate

- Voting rights and responsibilities
- Branches of the U.S. federal government
- State and local government
- Media influence and news literacy
- Civic involvement
- Earth stewardship

- Community service project
- Landmark cases of the U.S. Supreme Court
- Civic debate

Science

- Controlled experiments
- Periodic table of elements
- Mixtures and compounds
- Force vectors
- Mass, weight, and gravity

- Laws of motion
- Types of energy
- Student-led scientific inquiry

- Properties of waves
- Electromagnetic spectrum
- Reflection, absorption, and refraction of light
- Electric charge and electrical current

- Measuring and controlling electricity
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Mechanical advantage
- Principles of aerodynamics
- Student-led scientific inquiry

Math: Algebra ½

- Graphs
- Decimals
- Percentages
- Measuring length, area, and volume
- Algebraic equations
- Rate word problems
- Scientific notation

- Ratios and proportions
- Graphing inequalities
- Negative coefficients
- Estimating roots
- Angles and triangles
- Negative exponents
- Permutations