

	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATHEMATICS	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	FOREIGN LANGUAGE	ART	MUSIC	COMPUTERS	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	OTHER PROGRAMS
3	Reading program using basal text, skills workbook, trade books, teacher-created material; listening skills, vocabulary building, comprehension, phonics, poetry reading, creative writing; grammar, mechanics, spelling, cursive writing.	Development of concepts, skills, and their application; fractions and mixed numbers; divisibility rules; whole number computation; decimals; geometry, problem-solving strategies, estimation, probability and statistics.	Survey of the seven geographic regions of the United States. Explored through writing journals, designing creative projects, current events, field trips, making & using maps, charts, graphs, time lines.	Exploration of the life cycles of animals and plants through observation, experiments, and research; comparison of Earth with other planets and satellites; study of motion and energy; our water system.		Introduction to art history through a study of major artists and their styles; more diversity in materials used in crafts, drawing, painting, and printmaking. The art program is integrated into other disciplines whenever possible.	Continue with musical notation; listen to a variety of musical styles; play melodic percussion instruments; encouraged to use correct vocal technique; Christmas Program gives children experience in singing, dancing, and acting.	Use graphics programs to create drawings w/ multi-media tools, develop scientific data, produce animated stories, collages, school reports, presentations; use math programs to strengthen skills; develop problem-solving strategies.	Basic motor development, physical fitness, and sportsmanship; increasing skill development from simple to complex. Health topics include hygiene, safety, dental health, and building self-esteem.	Multi-age enrichment in the areas of science, computer, language arts and social studies. Library Resource Center; in-house professional performances; field trips; Learning Resource Center.
4	Emphasis on more complex elements of comprehension, such as drawing inferences; combination of basal text and novels; reading specialist provides small group instruction and remediation; grammar, writing, spelling, and vocabulary.	Builds on Third Grade program with computation and basic operations; reinforces concepts and skills taught in first three grades; emphasis on critical thinking skills and problem-solving strategies; geometry; fractions; mental math; estimation.	An in-depth study of Virginia-its history, geography, major historic attractions, government, and current events. Explored through map study, projects, and a variety of field trips. The social studies program is very closely integrated with the language arts prog.	Studies in life science incorporate an intensive, interdisciplinary study of the Chesapeake Bay ecology; physical science units include the study of properties of matter, forms of energy, electricity, weather, and the oceans.	Fourth Grade through Sixth Grade: Basic everyday French/Spanish is taught twice a week with vocabulary appropriate to age/grade level;	Introduction to the construction of art by the elements and principles of design; students learn to discuss art in these terms. The art program is integrated into other disciplines whenever possible.	Perform and notate rhythmic patterns of increasing complexity; distinguish between M and m tonality; recognize beat patterns of 2, 3, and 4 beats. Performance in a Christmas program offers the opportunity to perform for an audience and to accomplish a goal.	Practice typing skills; develop research techniques; learn basic word processing skills; prepare reports, presentations, and projects; use spreadsheets, bar graphs, and data tables; practice and strengthen math skills; use CD ROMs for research.	Fourth Grade through Eighth Grade: Further development of the skills learned in the earlier grades; emphasis on individual and team skills. Physical fitness, sportsmanship, and the importance of lifetime sports are emphasized. Students are given the opportunity to compete against other schools in soccer, basketball, and track and field through ISAC (Independent School Athletic Conference).	Multi-age enrichment in the areas of science, computer, language arts and social studies; Library Resource Center; in-house professional performances; field trips, Learning Resource Center; Friends of Other Languages; study skills.
5	Reading, writing, vocab, grammar, spelling, and literature; program expands skills and concepts from 4th Grade; reading is a separate subject; reading specialist available; grammar, spelling and vocabulary; emphasis on writing with regular assignments that are often combined with social studies.	Promotes mastery of basic skills of addition, subtract., multiplication, and division; mental arithmetic, paper and pencil algorithms, and calculation are all used to solve problems; problem-solving techniques and logical thinking; geometry; pre-algebra concepts; study of fractions is expanded.	Survey of early civilization including Egypt, the Fertile Crescent, Mesopotamia, Ancient Rome, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, Elizabethan England, and the Age of Exploration. Explored through projects, field trips, map study, current events, and topics of special interest.	Studies in life science include an introduction to the systems of the human body; physical science units on sound, light, and space; topics in geology; introduction to laboratory skills that reinforce class concepts.	taught twice a week with vocabulary appropriate to age/grade level; thematic units are used to introduce vocabulary, games, songs, and art activities supplement learning; cultural experiences add interest. Early emphasis on the oral aspect of learning with a gradual focus on grammar and spelling at the Fifth and Sixth Grade level. One semester is spent on learning each language.	Concept of how elements and principles of design are found in famous works of art in students' art; see art's relationship to our history and culture, and to other cultures. The art program is integrated into other disciplines whenever possible.	Identification of orchestral instruments by sound; performance of melodic and rhythmic patterns with standard rote; time signatures; opportunity to sing in school chorus. Christmas musical combines concepts and skills into an experience in the performing arts.	Practice typing skills; develop research techniques; learn basic word processing skills; prepare reports, presentations, and projects; use spreadsheets, bar graphs, and data tables; practice and strengthen math skills; use CD ROMs for research.	Health topics include communicable diseases, nutrition, First Aid, alcohol and drug abuse, and human sexuality. The DARE Program is taught by local law enforcement officers at the 5th Grade level.	Multi-age enrichment in the areas of science, computer, language arts and social studies; Library Resource Center, in-house professional performances; field trips; Learning Resource Center; Friends of Other Languages; study skills.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

6	Literature: Intro to the classics (<u>Beowulf</u>), Shakespeare, and American Lit; poetry; projects. English: grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and writing; (expository, narrative, descriptive, and persuasive compositions). Classroom library for academic and pleasure reading.	Basic operations; decimals; fractions; percent; solving equations; strategies for problem-solving; number theory; geometry; measurement.	A study of United States history from political, economic, and social perspectives. Course begins with the American Revolution. A unit devoted to the US Constitution and American government is included. Explored through a chronological thematic approach and integrates social studies and critical thinking skills. Ongoing attention is given to current events. (Two year course)	Survey of science: experimental design and the scientific method, major kingdoms of organisms, elementary chemistry, meteorology, environmental studies, and astronomy.		Develop individual art skills in drawing, painting, and crafts; use and understand art terms; recognize major styles and periods in art history; use art as a means of self-expression; understand color theory in a variety of student projects as well as in famous works of art.	Review of rotation, syncopation, and voice classification; opportunity to sing in chorus; experience a variety of multi-cultural musical styles; exposure to American musical forms and styles; perform in a Christmas program to entertain family and friends.	Continued practice of typing skills; additional experiences in using reference CD ROMs for research; word processing and spreadsheet skills integrated into classroom assignments; create a web page on the internet.		Library Resource Center; in-house professional performances; field trips; Friends of Other Languages; High School Night; Learning Resource Center; forensics; Teen Club.
7	Literature: Survey of genre; Am. Lit. is connected to history/culture; Greek mythology; Shakespeare; forensics; poetry. English: grammar; vocabulary, emphasis on writing; study and development of research techniques; formal research project.	Pre-Algebra 7/8: Basic operations; decimals; fractions; percent; problem-solving; equation solving; roots and exponentials; factoring; probability; statistics; measurement conversions; metric system; geometry.		Life Science: experimental design and the scientific method, Chesapeake Bay ecology, basic cell structure and function, biochemistry, human systems, genetics, selected topics for debate, field studies, and restoration projects.	French I or Spanish I Two year course on an elective basis for HS credit; immersion into a complete oral, aural, reading, and writing language study; cultural activities increase awareness of cultural differences. Languages offered based on parental preference.	Expand concepts learned in Sixth Grade; focus on a variety of crafts and three-dimensional projects; reinforcement of the elements of design and color theory; exploration of the importance of crafts in art and in culture.	Exposure to historical periods and characteristics as related to art, music, and literature; opportunity to sing in chorus; musical reading skills include more complex elements of musical notation for rhythms and melody; study of famous composers; perform in a Christmas program	Continued practice of typing skills; additional experiences in using reference CD ROMs for research; word processing and spreadsheet skills integrated into classroom assignments; create a web page on the internet.		Library Resource Center; in-house professional performances; field trips; Friends of Other Languages; High School Night; Learning Resource Center; forensics; Teen Club; community service.
8	Literature: Concentrated study of literary elements and genre; emphasis on the novel; analyze and write about literature; forensics. English: More complex grammar; emphasis on combining lit. and writing through an "author's project" with a term paper.	Algebra I: Course is designed to be challenging with a strong emphasis on problem-solving; explanation of the reasoning behind algebraic concepts is a major focus of the program; special projects show the relevance of math to real world applications.	Study of: world's major geographic regions: geography, history, political, social, economic, cultural development; emphasis on current events/problems. Explored by writing, vocab, note taking, classification, problem solving, critical thinking, map/globe study.	Physical Science: hands-on experience with the laws that govern the physical world. Studies in the basic theories of physics and chemistry as well as the practical application of mathematical concepts; expanded experience with the scientific method.	French I/Spanish I Two year course on an elective basis for HS credit; immersion into a complete oral, aural, reading, and writing language study; cultural activities increase awareness of cultural differences. Languages offered based on parental preference.	Brings together visual arts and crafts; emphasis on art history and in understanding art as part of everyday life; appreciation of art in culture and its importance to our future. The art program is integrated with projects and programs in other disciplines.	Culmination of skills and concepts learned; preparation for musical experience in high school; opportunity to sing in chorus; music teacher works with drama class to afford opportunities in the performing arts.	Practice typing skills; use knowledge of research techniques across the curriculum; use word processing and spreadsheet skills for scientific data organization and graphing; publish school yearbook, manage financial info, create graphic ads, type text.		Library Resource Center; in-house professional performances; field trips; Friends of Other Languages; High School Night; Learning Resource Center; forensics; Teen Club; Drama.