

**Maple Creek Middle School 2021-2022**  
**Grade 6**

**MATHEMATICS**

**Accelerated Math 6** - Duration: two semesters per year

**Pre-requisite:** Student enrollment in this course is based upon a CogAt score in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above, an NWEA score in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above, or a teacher recommendation based on daily classroom performance.

**Summary:** Comprehensive development of mathematical skills and topics including: problem solving, whole numbers, decimals, fractions, integers, rational numbers, geometry, ratios, proportions, percents, and solving equations using transformations. This course is for the advanced 6<sup>th</sup> grade student who has demonstrated a high-level of performance in math class with above average problem solving and computational skills in whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percents.

\* Students earning a “C+ or lower” in the first semester will be re-evaluated prior to starting the second semester of Accelerated math. Following a teacher recommendation and parent approval, they will be moved to the Math 6 curriculum.

**Math 6** -Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** Comprehensive development of mathematical skills and topics including: problem solving, whole numbers, decimals, fractions, graphing, measurement, geometry, ratio, proportion, percent, integers, area and volume. Each lesson taught is designed to challenge students and still provide enough supplemental instruction for the students who need additional work with math skills.

**Math Lab 6:** Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** The purpose of this class is to remediate students who have fallen behind in key areas of mathematics development. This class is assigned to students who scored in the lowest 10% of their grade level on the math portion of NWEA and have been recommended for support services by their math teacher from the previous academic year. This class takes the place of a student’s study hall. Class time is allotted in this course for completion of homework as well as direct instruction for remediation in mathematics.

**ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS and READING**

**Accelerated English/Language Arts 6:** - Duration: two semesters per year

**Pre-requisite:** Student enrollment in this course is based upon a CogAt score in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above, an NWEA score in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above, or a teacher recommendation based on daily classroom performance.

**Summary:** This pre-advanced placement course is intended to prepare students for future honors-level and advanced placement classes. Students will be engaged with in-depth and rigorous coursework that focuses strongly on analyzing and synthesizing a variety of texts. The writing focus in this course will teach students how to write for varied purposes while preparing them for writing in advanced courses in the future.

**Language Arts 6: Language and Reading**-Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** Language and Reading are linked classes in sixth grade. This means the students will have one grade and be in class with the same peers for both Language and Reading. The language portion of the class will include grammar, speaking, writing, and media citizenship. Rules of grammar will be reviewed and will include sentence structure, pronouns, verb tenses, and prepositions. Writing and speaking skills are an integral part of studying language in the sixth grade. Students will learn and understand the writing process, planning, drafting, and conventions. Students will be expected to learn essay structure that includes introductory, middle, and concluding paragraphs, and they will learn to use topic sentences appropriately. Students will be expected to write for various purposes and audiences. The different writing genres will include narrative, expository, argumentative, the research process, and speeches. A poetry unit will also be included in their study this year. Through learning, writing, and reciting poetry, the students will study the use of figurative language. Speaking skills will be taught through presenting several oral assignments over different topics.

Reading instruction during the school year will utilize paperback books, magazines, reading online information, informational text, basal text, and numerous other reading materials so students are exposed to different genres. Independent reading will also be an important requirement of the reading curriculum. Skills that will be covered include compare and contrast, clarifying main ideas, theme, characters, settings, plots, point of view, and vocabulary through reading different types of fiction and nonfiction text throughout the school year.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Social Studies 6** -Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** Our sixth grade Social Studies program is a combination of hands-on, simulation activities, and some textbook experiences. Our concentration of study is Western Civilization. We study ancient civilizations such as Greece and Rome. We then follow mankind through the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and into the early cultures of Central and South America. As the year continues, we study current day Latin America, Canada and Europe. Students also study economics, geography and map work. Sixth grade Social Studies is an exciting trip around the world in 180 days.

**SCIENCE**

**Science 6:** Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** Sixth grade Science is a two-semester course that incorporates the Indiana Academic Standards for Science – 2016. The students will use science notebooks to help develop, practice, and refine their science understanding, while also enhancing reading, writing, mathematics and communications. These notebooks contain information about the students’ classroom experiences and students are encouraged to use them as scientists would, before, during, and after all investigations. They are a place where students formulate and record their questions; make predictions; record data, procedures, and results; compose reflections; and communicate findings. Some studies include: speed and velocity, potential and kinetic energy, space, and diversity of life examining the differences between living things.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**Physical Education 6**-Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** The sixth grade physical education program is designed to use skills learned in elementary lead-up games to play regulation games while emphasizing improvement in both fine and gross motor movements. The rules needed to play the games are taught and the students take short, very basic tests over the rules. The team sports include softball, soccer, speed-a-way, ultimate Frisbee, flag football, ultimate football, volleyball, basketball, and scooter hockey. Also, large group games and activities such as mat ball, treasure hunt and capture the ball are used along with the individual sports and lifetime activities of badminton and table tennis. To complete the program, a unit involving cooperative learning will be offered.

The sixth grade students also receive a basic introduction to the middle school fitness program in the L.I.F.E. room (Learning Involves Fitness in Education) and they work out in the L.I.F.E. lab approximately twice a week on aerobic equipment and strength-training equipment. The strength-training program for sixth grade students is strictly limited to low weight with an emphasis on proper form and repetitions.

**Health 6** -

**Summary:** The sixth grade curriculum includes topics related to healthy lifestyles including social, emotional and physical health; age appropriate hygiene; introduction to the body systems and medical occupations.

## ELECTIVES

### **General Music 6-** Duration: one nine week period

**Summary:** Sixth grade general music class will meet for a nine-week period. Students will actively participate in class through a variety of musical experiences. The following musical concepts will be integrated within the class: rhythm, melody, harmony, form and cultural context. Students will practice these concepts by singing, playing, creating, and listening. The main objective is to involve students in a positive musical experience.

### **Art 6 -** Duration: one nine week period

**Summary:** The sixth grade art course is designed to make the student aware of the basic art elements and how these elements can be combined to create aesthetically pleasing artworks. The student will be using a variety of media and learning how to manipulate these mediums to improve his/her artistic talent. Some of these areas include color, drawing, painting, construction, printmaking, and art history. Each lesson is planned to build upon the previous lessons. The student will use information learned in earlier projects to aid them in creating a qualitative art object. The sixth grade art student will obtain a general understanding of the elements and principles in art.

### **Geography 6 -** Duration: one nine week period

**Summary:** This course will take students through the continents while learning about the physical geography, cultural geography, and political geography while also focusing on basic map skills.

### **Healthy Living 6-** Duration: one-nine week period

**Summary:** This 6<sup>th</sup> grade course includes topics related to healthy lifestyles including social, emotional and physical health. Students will explore healthy eating choices, developing positive relationships with friends and family, maintaining personal hygiene, and other hands on activities that promote a happy and healthy life!

### **Introduction to Computers 6-** Duration: one nine week period

Intro to Computers is designed to familiarize students with computers and their main applications. Students will learn correct keyboarding technique as well as fundamental concepts of computer hardware and software. In addition students will become familiar with a variety of computer applications, including word-processing, spreadsheets, and multimedia presentations. Students will even begin to investigate and learn about some introductory computer programming skills with the program Scratch.

### **Study Hall 6-** Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** Students will have time to study and work independently on homework assignments.

### **Band 6 -**Duration: two semesters per year

**Pre-requisite:** Fifth grade level band instruction and/or instructor approval

**Summary:** The band rehearses daily for one period, stressing total musicianship. Grades are based on practice time, written tests, playing tests and attendance at performances. The band performs at five major concerts and at the ISSMA band contest.

### **Choir 6 -**Duration: two semesters per year

**Summary:** Open to any sixth grade student who enjoys singing and would like to learn a variety of vocal styles. Grades are based on class projects, musical tests, participation in class, and attendance at all performances. The choir performs at four concerts throughout the year and at the required ISSMA Choir contest in March. A calendar with concert and contest dates will be handed out at the beginning of the school year and can also be found on-line on the Choir web page.

\* All courses will reflect the Indiana Standards