

**Welcome  
to  
Liberty Middle School**

**Virtual Curriculum Night**

**for**

**Sixth Grade**

**2013-2014 School Year**

Welcome to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade at Liberty Middle School! We are off to a fantastic start for this school year! Our newest “middle-schoolers” have conquered lockers, changing classrooms, weekly rotating schedules, five academic classes every day, and new teachers. Now that we are all into these routines of middle school life, we want to share the curriculum that your 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be following this school year.

**To access what was covered daily in class and to access homework assignments, log into**



itslearning, which replaces ANGEL, is Forsyth County Schools' new personalized online learning system.

In itslearning, parents monitor student progress and view content assigned to their child. Parents have one login to view multiple children. Examples of what is available to parents in itslearning include a list of student tasks with due dates, a report showing how well their student is keeping up with class work, a view of the teacher's planner, and a secure messaging system to communicate with their child's teacher.

## **Accessing itsLearning:**

Go to <https://forsyth.itslearning.com> or visit Liberty's web site for the link. Parents login with their ParentPortal username and password. If you do not have a ParentPortal account, visit Liberty's front office to setup your account. Please bring a photo ID for activation.

For the 2013-14 school year, parents will access ParentPortal to view grades and attendance for their child. In the future, this feature will be integrated into itslearning.

Visit <http://vimeo.com/71456463> to watch a three minute video tour of itslearning designed for parents.

# Homework Expectations

- Students and parents should expect 30-60 minutes of homework or reading time on week nights
- Review of class work, notebook entries, and notebook organization each evening is advised
- Study content vocabulary
- Read a book of your choice for at least 20 minutes

# **What Kinds of Assignments Will Be Formative\* Grades? (20%)**

- **Class participation**
- **Homework**
- **Daily Work**
- **Rough drafts of writing pieces**
- **Journal entries/labs/computer activities**
- **Quizzes**

**\*Practice toward meeting a standard**

# **What Kinds of Assignments Will Be Summative\* Grades? (80%)**

- **Final drafts of pieces of writing**
- **Projects**
- **Tests over major units and content concepts**

**\*Work that involves a process that demonstrates mastery of a standard**

# Reteach and Recovery

- If student does not master the concept in a unit assessment, student must complete recovery work.
- This recovery work can be completed at home, through Learning, before school, or during Basic Training or CIA (Corrective Instructional Academy).
- Upon completion of recovery work, student will retake the assessment in a timely fashion.





# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts



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# Language Arts

Language Arts consists of four focus areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening/Speaking/Viewing
- English Grammar



These domains are categorized under the **Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS)** which will drive our instruction.

Online textbook can be found on the LMS website under Academics/English Department or at <http://my.hrw.com>

# WRITING

By the end of their 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA experience, students will analyze and edit their own writing to include acceptable use of basic conventions, cite evidence and provide examples, as well as continue to develop their individual voices and styles.

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies



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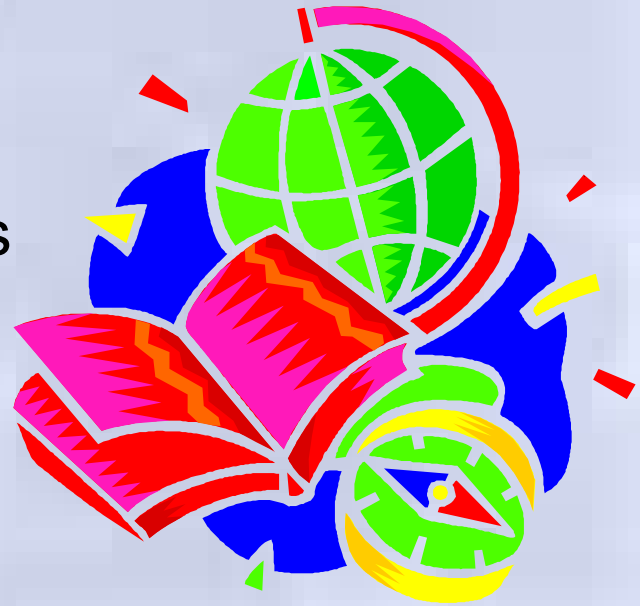
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# Social Studies Class Expectations

- Class Syllabus
- Helpful Links
  - [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org)
  - [www.sheppardsoftware.com](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com)
- Materials needed for this class
  - 5 subject spiral notebook
  - Writing utensils
  - Glue stick
  - Coloring supplies



# Topics Discussed in Social Studies

Concentrated areas include:

-Europe, Australia, Latin America, Canada

• Topics within each:

-Maps(Political/Physical), Location, Climate, Natural Resources, Culture, Government, Economy and History



# Social Studies

## Homework Expectations

- Most work will be completed in class.
- However, study guides, finishing projects, and studying for upcoming assessments should be completed at home.
- Homework should not be expected every night.

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science



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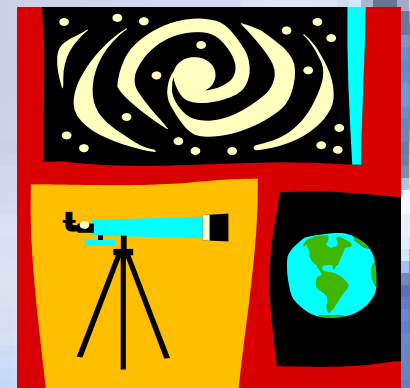
# Earth Science

Standards that are to be mastered during the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year may be viewed at

[www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org)

**Sixth Grade Science domains include:**

Characteristics of Science-inquiry,  
lab safety, metric measurements,  
problem-solving – throughout the  
school year





# Geology



- Students will investigate the scientific view of how Earth's surface is formed.
- Topics include: minerals and rocks, role of the rock cycle in shaping Earth's surface, how fossils and rock layers give clues to past Earth history, layers of Earth, plate tectonics, and other processes such as erosion, deposition, and volcanic eruptions that affect today's geological features



first semester





# Hydrology



- Students will recognize the significant role of water in Earth processes.
- Topics include: water cycle, characteristics of the ocean and ocean floor, and ocean motions – waves, currents, and tides



second semester





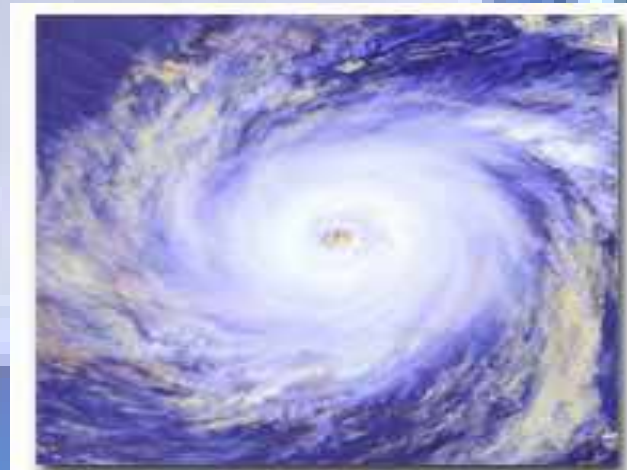
# Meteorology



- Students will understand how the distribution of land and oceans affects climate and weather.
- Topics include: factors affecting climate and weather, including weather patterns, wind systems, and moderate to severe weather events



second semester

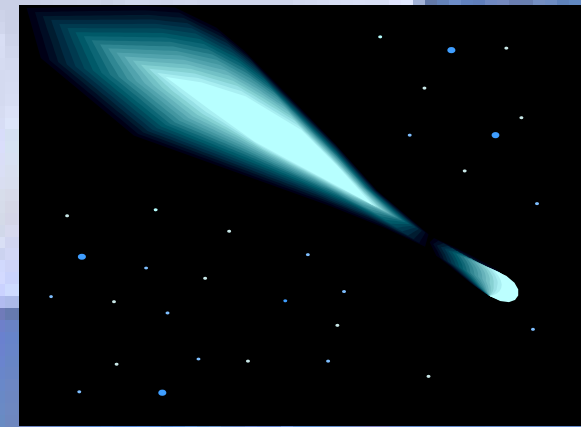
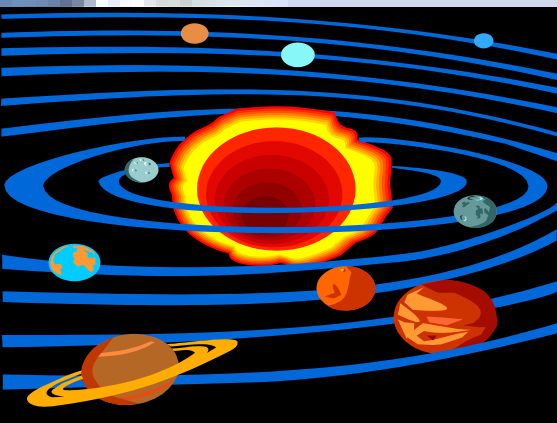




# Astronomy

- Students will explore current scientific views of the universe and how those views evolved.
- Topics include: Earth's movements and effects of the relative position within our solar system – moon phases, eclipses, seasons, scientific theories of the universe, and exciting astronomical discoveries occurring frequently

second semester





# Materials Needed Daily for Science Class

- 3-ring binder
- Notebook paper
- PENCILS



To access online science textbook through Prentice Hall's site:

[www.phschool.com](http://www.phschool.com)

Click on: ★ SuccessNet Login  
(bottom right corner)

Enter user name and  
password: **libscience6a**    **6scien**

*or*

**libscience6b**    **6science**



**Students should NOT change this generic password!**

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math



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# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math



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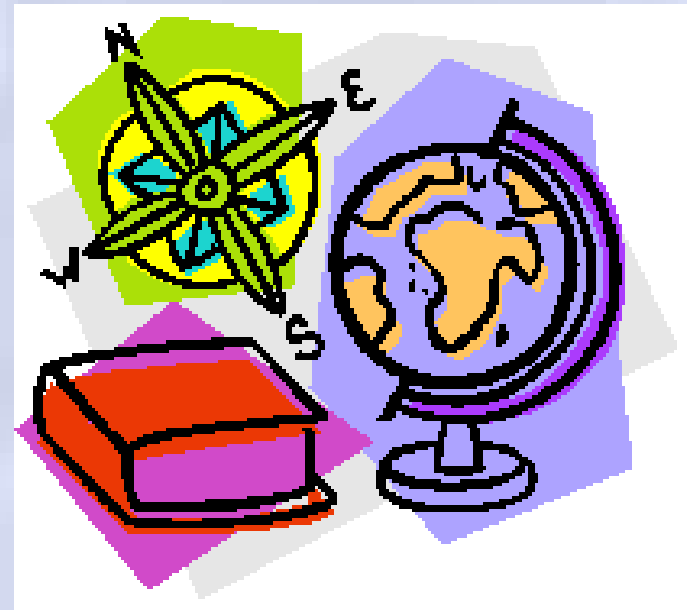
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# Math Information

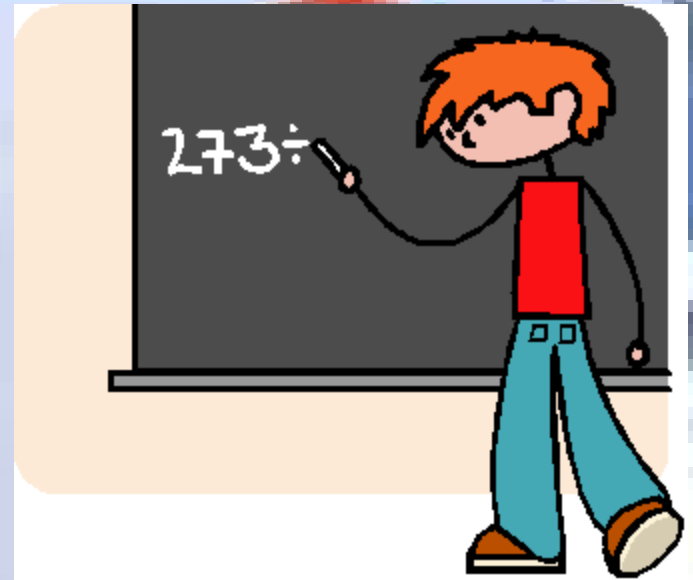
Materials needed  
for Math class:

Binder,  
**PENCILS**, graph  
paper



# Units Covered...

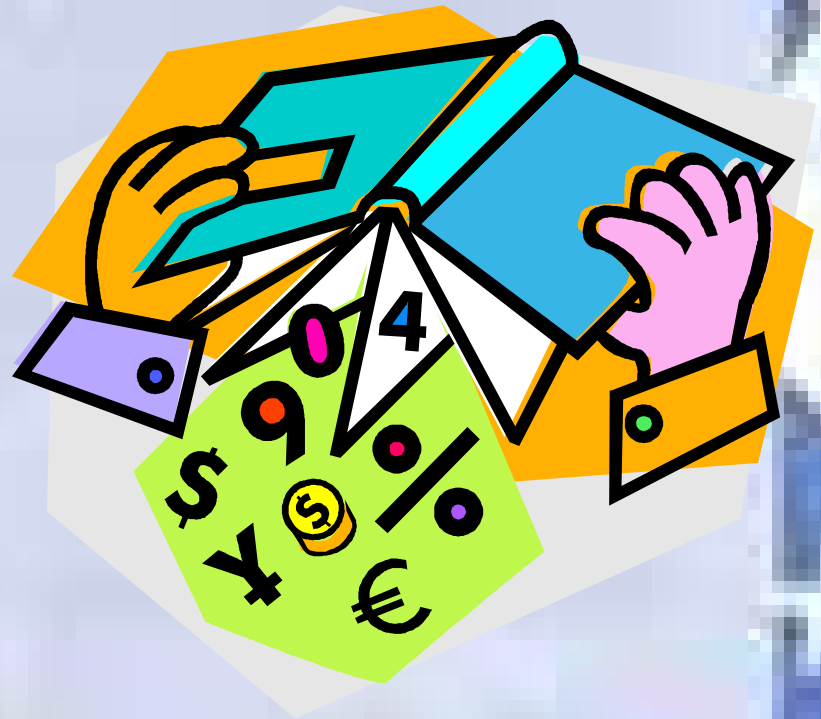
- Number System Fluency
- Rates, Ratios, & Proportions
- Expressions
- Equations and Inequalities
- Area and Volume
- Rational Exploration
- Statistics



# Math Grading Policy

**Summative Exams can  
be retaken for full  
credit**

**Formative Exams can  
not be retaken.**



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Study Skills



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# Study Skills

(all year class)

## Information and Media Literacy

Skills that students will build on include communication and presentation skills, organization and time management skills, research and inquiry skills, self assessment and reflection skills, and group participation and leadership skills. Performance is assessed on an individual basis, and takes into account the quality of the product produced and the depth of content covered.

Students will practice research skills such as creating citations, evaluating websites, and analyzing research sources. They will use novels, nonfiction articles and books, as well as the internet, to create projects. Skills will be embedded in projects aligned for real world issues, such as animal rescue and ecology. Many Language Arts standards will be supported throughout the course.

# How can I help my child?

- Ask about class/assignments
- Look at agenda and notebook with your student (emphasize organization)
- Replenish pencils/glue sticks/supplies
- Encourage use of tutorials/self assess features of the online book, if applicable
- Use Parent Portal for grades and itsLearning for course information

**Important dates:**

**Student-Led Conferences**

**October 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Questions?**



**Please contact us with your questions or concerns.**