

6th Grade

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Required Courses

English (Full Year):

The sixth grade language arts program is designed to help students develop those skills which will enable them to speak, write, read and listen more effectively. This literature-based program will emphasize written communication and grammar.

Reading: (Full Year):

The sixth grade reading course is designed to give students practice in word identification, comprehension and study skills. The use of novels, thematic units and structured free reading, as well as writing, will be an integral part of this course.

Pre Advanced Placement English (Full Year):

Pre AP English provides capable students with a course designed to prepare them for rigorous advanced course work in the future. Students will analyze a variety of literary genres, conduct research, and write extensively in this class. Students should expect an additional time requirement and be willing to work independently.

Gifted and Talented English and Reading (Full Year):

Sixth grade students who are currently identified in the Frisco ISD Gifted and Talented program (Quest) will be guided through a challenging course that will expose them to a large variety of literature. Students will be required to read and analyze both classic and contemporary novels, participate in thematic units, conduct in-depth research, complete individual and group projects, and write extensively throughout the year. Critical thinking skills will be emphasized to prepare students for future advanced classes.

Mathematics (Full Year):

The sixth grade mathematics program is designed to meet the needs of each child. It consists of a study of the four basic operations with whole numbers, integers, non-negative rational numbers and decimals. The program includes percents, metric measurements, and concepts of geometry and pre-algebra. A variety of teaching methods and hands-on materials will be used.

Pre Advanced Placement Math (Full Year):

Pre AP Math provides capable students with a course designed to prepare them for rigorous advanced course work in the future. It consists of a study of the four basic operations with whole numbers, integers, non-negative rational numbers and decimals. The program includes percents, metric measurements, and concepts of geometry and pre-algebra. A variety of teaching methods and hands-on materials will be used. Students should expect an additional time requirement and be willing to work independently.

Science (Full Year):

Sixth grade science encompasses earth, life and physical sciences. Students discover concepts in scientific methods, physics, chemistry, biology, behavior, ecology, geology and astronomy. Students utilize reading, research and experiments as a part of the discovery method in this science program. Textbooks, laboratory materials, videos, filmstrips and the library are sources for this study. Health, safety, personal hygiene, and the dangers of drugs will also be a part of this course.

Social Studies (Full Year):

The sixth grade social studies program encompasses geographical, political, technological, and cultural aspects of nations of the Eastern Hemisphere. The study is explored through a variety of resources presently available such as texts, kits, maps, globes, films, tapes, and guest speakers.

Advisory (Full Year):

The sixth grade advisory period provides students with tools and skills that help them to manage the transition from elementary to middle school. Students are taught organizational and study skills and are also allowed time to work on assignments or to receive tutoring in academic areas.

Physical Education/Computer Literacy:

The Physical Education program provides students with opportunities to develop skill and sportsmanship through a variety of team sports and fitness activities.

Computer Literacy is designed to emphasize keyboarding skills, computer-related terminology, and use of the computer as a tool, while developing knowledge of word processing, spreadsheets, databases and graphics.

P.E. will alternate on an A/B Day schedule during the same class period with Computer Literacy for the entire year.

Elective Courses

Beginning Band 6th (Full Year):

This course is designed to teach students the basic fundamentals of band instruments (Brass, Woodwind and Percussion). The course covers selection and care of instruments, correct playing position, music reading, and awareness of rhythm and pitch. Students will be placed into appropriate band classes upon taking an instrument test. Students are expected to practice regularly and will be required to perform in concerts throughout the year. (Instrument arrangements will be made.)

Orchestra (Full Year):

The orchestra program in the 6th grade involves instruction in violin, viola, cello or bass. This class is open to any sixth grade student who would like to further his or her musical knowledge and begin instruction on a stringed instrument. These classes meet daily and focus on establishing and developing basic musical and performance skills. During the year, all string students will combine to present concerts for the parents and public.

Art I (Full Year):

Art I will emphasize drawing techniques and design principles while studying the elements of art and various artists. Students will also work with clay, paper collage, and various painting media.

Theatre Arts I (Full Year):

Theatre Arts I is designed for any student who is interested in an introduction to performance and the theatre. The student is introduced to acting through exercises in body and voice control, concentration, and relaxation. The student will work on improvisation skills, both individually and in groups. The primary objective is to develop the student's creativity and ability for self-expression.

Boys' Choir (Full Year):

Boys' Choir is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys who would like to further their musical knowledge and sing in a performing ensemble. ***No prior singing experience is required.*** Classes meet daily and focus on establishing and developing good vocal technique, reading musical notation, and acquiring and improving performance skills. During the year, all choir students will combine on two or more occasions to present concerts for the parents and public. The Boys' Choir may go to competitions such as Solo and Ensemble, Sandy Lake, and Spring UIL Contest.

Girls' Choir (Full Year):

Girls' Choir is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls who would like to further their musical knowledge and sing in a performing ensemble. ***No prior singing experience is required.*** Classes meet daily and focus on establishing and developing good vocal technique, reading musical notation, and acquiring and improving performance skills. During the year, all choir students will combine on two or more occasions to present concerts for the parents and public. The Girls' Choir may also go to competitions such as Solo and Ensemble, Sandy Lake, and Spring UIL Contest.