



## **Sixth Grade Course Handbook 2023-2024**

### **Core Classes**

#### **English**

In sixth grade, the curriculum is developed from Wisconsin State Standards for English and Language Arts. Engagement in this course includes many facets; such as writing (expository, persuasive, and narrative), grammar, punctuation, word development and understanding, spelling, and presentation skill building and practice. Students will continue to work on their writing skills in this course through small, informal, writing pieces to larger formal essays. Students' grammar, word usage, vocabulary, and spelling will be consistently addressed through daily practice. Students will also use reading strategy skills of prediction, inference, compare and contrast, context to self and world text, summarization, visualization, question and evaluation to demonstrate comprehension and fluency while reading informational text and literature to meet the developmental standards of sixth grade. Also, an emphasis on literary elements will be included in the curriculum to aid in the comprehension of text. These texts include stories, dramas, and poetry along with informational text with an emphasis on history and science.

#### **Math**

Sixth grade math curriculum follows the Common Core State Standards. Students will learn about ratios rates and unit rates, become fluent in all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using decimals, learn about opposites of numbers, and graphing on a coordinate plane. Students will also learn about writing and solving expressions and equations. In geometry we learn about finding the area of triangles and quadrilaterals, as well as graphing them on the coordinate plane. We also focus on understanding data and graphs and measures of spread. Throughout each of these topics, we focus on developing number sense, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

#### **Science**

Students in sixth grade will focus on a variety of earth, life, and physical science standards. Sparta students will engage in scientific thinking and experiences that promote curiosity, innovation, and the discovery of natural phenomena. Through an interactive, inquiry-based 6th grade science curriculum, all students will become critical consumers of scientific information and stewards of the Earth. We will begin the year learning the steps of the scientific method and writing a lab report. We examine the interrelationships that take place in ecosystems around the World. From there, we will discuss a plethora of natural disasters like earthquakes, volcanoes, and states of matter. We will

then finish the year talking about properties of water and discussing astronomy. Throughout the year, there will also be a focus on reading and creating graphs, as well as deciphering information from other scientific readings.

### **Social Studies**

Students in sixth grade will be engaged in the study of world geography. Students will be exploring the world region by region, learning about the many different parts of the world. This includes a look at physical geography (landscapes, climates, etc.) and human geography (culture, population patterns, etc.). Furthermore, the course is designed to allow students to broaden their understanding of people, places, and systems in an increasingly interdependent world. Students will also work to develop and apply skills related to asking and answering questions, evaluating sources, and developing claims supported by evidence.

### **Specials Classes**

**\*Students choose ONE Music class - either Band OR Choir**

#### **Band**

Join the Sparta Meadowview Middle School Band! 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band provides an opportunity to learn to play an instrument, build social skills, and experience music in a safe, fun, and supportive environment. In addition to the daily awesomeness of being a part of the band, you will have small group lessons with other students to better learn your instrument(s) and develop music skills.

#### **Choir**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir is a class of music exploration! We will prepare music as a chorus for two performances, music that ranges from the classics to modern radio, but we will also do favorite artist projects, listen to and study different genres of modern music, as well as learning about and building a strong community. Choir will be fun, fast paced and fantastic!

### **Additional Required Specials Classes:**

#### **Art**

Students will develop drawing, painting and ceramics skills while exploring various art topics. Some topics include alternative color wheels, Doodle 4 Google, optical illusions, clay techniques and fiber arts. Materials such as graphite, oil pastels, colored pencils, watercolors, clay, string, chalk, digital art and more will be used.

#### **FACS**

Learn about families, food, nutrition, and cooking. You will also get in the kitchen and show off your cooking skills.

## **Health**

Students will be introduced to the dimensions of health and build skills and knowledge in each of the dimensions. Through the units, students will learn how to communicate effectively with friends, peers, and family members in various situations. Also, students will learn how to stand up to peer pressure, increase self esteem, practice goal setting, and be given the tools to apply decision making models in the tough situations they may find themselves in.

## **Phy Ed**

We will do activities that will foster skill and strategic development. This will be done through individual, small group, and large group activities. Fitness activities will be incorporated in daily PE classes as well as fitness testing on a monthly basis. We will be working on setting and tracking your personal fitness data to achieve overall personal fitness goals. Students will not be changing clothes for 6th grade, but are expected to have tennis shoes that fit properly for PE class.

## Middle School Activities

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Cross Country (F)	Golf (F)	Golf (F)
Golf (F)	Volleyball (F)	Volleyball (F)
Archery (W)	Football (F)	Football (F)
Wrestling (W)	Cross Country (F)	Cross Country (F)
Nature Club (S)	Wrestling (W)	Wrestling (W)
Chess Club (S)	Basketball (W)	Basketball (W)
Ultimate Frisbee (S)	Archery (W)	Archery (W)
Track & Field (S)	Track & Field (S)	Track & Field (S)
Art Club (Y)	Nature Club (S)	Nature Club (S)
Science Olympiad (Y)	Chess Club (S)	Chess Club (S)
FFA (Y)	Softball (S)	Softball (S)
Yearbook (Y)	Ultimate Frisbee (S)	Ultimate Frisbee (S)
Stomp (S)	Stomp (S)	Stomp (S)
Battle of the Books (Y)	Battle of the Books (Y)	Battle of the Books (Y)
Best Buddies (Y)	Art Club (Y)	Art Club (Y)
Student Council (Y)	FFA (Y)	FFA (Y)
	FCCLA (Y)	FCCLA (Y)
	Student Council (Y)	Student Council (Y)
	Yearbook (Y)	Yearbook (Y)
	Show Choir (Y)	Show Choir (Y)
	Best Buddies (Y)	Best Buddies (Y)
	Science Olympiad (Y)	Science Olympiad (Y)
	Jazz Band (Y)	Jazz Band (Y)