

Grade 6

Core Courses

All students will be assigned to language arts, math, science, social studies and healthful living courses.

Language Arts 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

In the sixth grade, students demonstrate mastery of skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking and language throughout the year. Students become sophisticated readers and engage with a variety of text types, including literary and informational texts. They focus on reading comprehension and experience increased opportunities for collaborative learning. Students write for a variety of audiences and purposes and use informational resources and technology to develop their reading, writing and speaking skills. Students apply conventions of Standard English in a variety of formats, develop academic language to effectively present information, and demonstrate an understanding of relationships among words, in a variety of situations. Students must take the End-of-Grade test.

Math 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

Instruction and learning in Math 6 focuses on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking. Students must take the Grade 6 End-of-Grade test.

Advanced Math 6

Prerequisite: Level 5 on Grade 5 Math EOG

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

In addition to the four critical areas described for study in Math 6, this course includes about a semester of the seventh grade content standards. Proportional relationships; arithmetic with rational numbers; expressions, equations and inequalities are extended to the Math 7 standards. The additional content demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. To enroll

in Advanced Math 6, students should possess the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to be successful in a course that requires a faster pace of learning. Students must take the Grade 6 End-of-Grade test.

Science 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

The North Carolina science standards integrate science and engineering practices, emphasizing hands-on skills, problem-solving, and critical thinking. They also encompass disciplinary core ideas, providing a comprehensive foundation for students. The middle school science curriculum contains three main domains: physical science, earth science, and life science. In the realm of physical science, students will explore matter, investigating its structure, states, and physical properties. The course further delves into the characteristics of thermal and electrical energy transfer, as well as the interactions between matter and energy. Additionally, students will gain insights into the properties of waves, studying the wavelike nature of energy in seismic, electromagnetic (including visible light), and sound waves. Moving to earth science, the curriculum covers the Earth/Moon/Sun system and examines the properties, structures, and predictable motions of celestial bodies in the Universe. Students will also understand the lithosphere and the impact of constructive and destructive forces on changes in the Earth's surface over time. Exploring the reciprocal relationship between the lithosphere and humans, the course concludes with life science, where students will grasp the structures, processes, and behaviors of plants enabling their survival and reproduction, as well as the flow of energy through ecosystems and the responses of populations to both biotic and abiotic factors in their environment.

Social Studies 6- Integrated World Studies 1: Development of Civilizations

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

The standards and objectives in the 6th grade course, World Studies I, will allow students to extend the foundational skills, concepts, processes, and knowledge gained in grades K-5 and prepare students to be college, career, and civic ready. Despite there being a different overall focus for each subsequent course, students will explore the content through the following lenses: inquiry; behavioral sciences; civics and government; economics; geography; and history. As students develop cognitively, these lenses become more focused based on the grade-level content and disciplinary thinking skills. Students will focus on the emergence, expansion, and decline of civilizations from the Paleolithic Era to 1400 CE. They will understand key factors that shaped the development of civilizations.

Healthful Living 6

Note: Required for all students

Grade: 6

Healthful Living for all middle school students consists of 27 weeks of Physical Education and nine weeks of Health Education. Sixth grade health is designed to help students gain the skills and information they need to successfully navigate the challenges of middle school. The substance abuse prevention curriculum, puberty education, prevention of violence and sexual violence, mental health, and nutrition education are taught in an interactive and sensitive manner. Emphasis is placed in creating healthy lifestyles through good nutritional practices and daily physical activity. Physical Education emphasizes individual fitness and physical activity.

Elective Classes

Arts Education

Learn more about our CHCCS Visual & Performing Arts programs on our [main website](#), or see more details about our [course offerings](#).

Band 6

Note: Students must enter on their registration form the name of the instrument (example: flute) or type of instrument (example: woodwind) that they would like to play.

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

This course is for any student who wants to learn to play a musical instrument. Beginning Band teaches the student to read notes and rhythms and to understand musical terminology. Classes are divided into two groups: brasses such as the trumpet, trombone, tuba, and horn; and woodwinds such as the clarinet and flute. Students who wish to begin percussion instruments (drums) are mixed into both groups. There are limited positions available for the more popular instruments. Because this is a performance class, students are required to play in the scheduled evening concerts.

Note for all band courses: It is suggested that students purchase instruments. Assistance is provided for students needing help.

Chorus 6

Note: Students may take a full year of chorus by signing up for two semesters. Students must indicate this on their course selection sheet.

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester or Year

Chorus is a performance based class. Middle school chorus students learn the principles of correct, healthy singing. Skills in music reading and singing in two, three or four parts are emphasized. Students learn and perform music from a wide variety of cultures and traditions. Participation in concert performances outside and during regular class hours is required. Students are placed into appropriate classes according to grade, vocal range and skill level.

Orchestra 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

Orchestra 6 is a course open to all students who are interested in learning to play a string instrument - violin, viola, cello, or double bass. No musical experience is necessary to take this course. Students learn note reading as well as other music fundamentals as they learn to play their instrument. Concepts learned during the year, prepare students to continue in seventh and eighth grade orchestra. Home practice is assigned and expected and students perform in at least two concerts per year. Students are expected to provide their own instrument. If unable to do so, assistance is available.

Theatre 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester or Year

Students are introduced to basic acting skills through creative dramatics, theatre games and improvisation. They create original characters and scenes from fantasy and real life situations. Using these scenes, students begin to explore and understand themselves through guided reflection and observation. This curriculum also introduces basic voice and body work that every actor relies upon. Artistic decision making, group problem solving skills, confidence development and overcoming stage fright all occur in a creative and accepting environment.

Visual Arts 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

Students explore a variety of materials to create both two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art. Creative problem-solving is emphasized as students use the elements and principles of design to improve their skills.

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

[Video Overview of CTE Programs](#)

CTE: Business, Finance, and Information Technology Education

Exploring Computer Skills

Grade: 6 *Course length: Semester*

This course will cover the basics of Computer Skills and Applications. In this course students will learn invaluable skills they will use for a lifetime. This course will cover keyboarding technique, file management, and basic word processing.

CTE: Family and Consumer Sciences Education (FCS)

Exploring Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Grade: 6 *Course length: Semester*

Students will explore units of study that center around understanding self and others, personal finance, basic food preparation and working in the kitchen, how to manage and complete a basic sewing project, and finding ways to connect to future career possibilities.

CTE: Technology Education

Engineering: Exploring Technology I

Grade: 6 *Course length: Semester*

Discover and use technology, engineering, and design journals and the Engineering Design Process. Construct and test prototypes to various design challenges. Experiment with different types of energy sources. Explore the knowledge and skills for careers in technology, engineering, and design pathways.

Engineering: Exploring Technology II

Grade: 6 *Course length: Semester*

Discover and use technology, engineering, and design journals and the Engineering Design Process. Construct and test prototypes to various design challenges. Experiment with different types of renewable and recyclable material sources. Explore the knowledge and skills for careers in technology, engineering, and design pathways.

Career Exploration

Culbreth MS Only

Grade: 6 *Course length: Semester*

Engage in activities that illuminate the vital knowledge, skills, and purpose of various career pathways, examples may include Agriculture; Business, Finance, and Marketing; Computer Science, IT and Technology; Health Science; Family and Consumer Sciences; Trade and Industrial - Construction and Manufacturing; and Trade and Industrial - Transportation and Public Safety. Become empowered to self-assess personal aptitudes, skills, values, personality, and career interests. Evaluate aligned pathways to identify career education, training, and certifications.

World Languages

Middle School French 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

The sixth grade course introduces students to French language and culture. Learning experiences are designed to nurture communication skills, through the acquisition of vocabulary and the development, refinement and application of basic grammar concepts within a cultural context. This course meets the linguistic goals for both beginning and continuing elementary students.

Middle School Latin 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

Meet the Romans: Language and Culture (6th grade) Step into the *caligae* of the Romans to learn about their customs, culture, history, and religion! In this class, we will learn to speak, read, and write basic Latin. As we progress in our Latin studies, we will connect the ancient world with the modern by learning how the Greek and Roman civilizations continue to influence our own culture today.

Middle School Spanish 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

The sixth grade course introduces students to Spanish language and culture. Learning experiences are designed to nurture communication skills, through the acquisition of vocabulary and the development, refinement and application of basic grammar concepts within a cultural context. This course meets the linguistic goals for both beginning and continuing elementary students.

Enrichment Courses

AVID—Advancement Via Individual Determination 6

Prerequisite: Application, Interview, and Selection

Grade: 6 Course length: Year

This course is a College and Career Readiness System designed to develop an awareness of the values of academic goals and success. The main focus is on building self-confidence and self-advocacy skills with peers and adults. In addition, students are exposed to critical reading strategies, writing techniques, executive functioning skills, and awareness of college and career requirements. Rising 6th grade students and our guardians should contact their 5th grade teacher or elementary school counselor to apply.

Creative Writing

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

This course provides an opportunity for students to explore the writing craft by examining models of fine writing (poetry, plays and short stories). Students create and analyze their own pieces in a writing workshop environment. This course also provides an opportunity for students to learn publishing skills.

Mythology

Grade: 6 Course Length: Semester

This course is designed for inquiring, imaginative and creative minds. Starting with an introduction to the Olympian gods, demigods and lesser gods and continuing with studies in Greek tragedy and epic, students are engaged in creative writing, research on projects, imaginative cultural arts exercises, myth-making and storytelling. The focus is on discovering the influence of the ancient world in the shaping of the Western civilization while allowing students' imaginations to soar through the study and enjoyment of these myths.

School Specific Courses

PHILLIPS MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Video Production I

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

Video Production I introduces the basics of technology used to create video segments. This project-based course focuses on story design, video camera operation and script writing. Students also learn information about careers in the multimedia field and utilize opportunities for hands-on experience.

SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Global Connections – 6

Grade: 6 Course length: Semester

This course focuses on global issues such as population growth, sustainability, energy use and socio-economics. The class allows students the opportunity to learn and discuss current events and world issues through a broad scope of activities.