

Middle School Benchmarks GRADES 6-8

Reading

- Evaluate, interpret, and draw conclusions in fiction and non-fiction
- Map out a story and identify the basic story elements of character, setting, plot, conflict, and theme
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in verbal and written responses
- Write clear, justified evaluations and interpretations

Language Arts

- Write quality essays to persuade, inform, and entertain
- Write a research paper including a formal class presentation
- Analyze and produce forms of mass media communication

Mathematics

- Use probability and statistics to predict outcomes
- Collect and organize data
- Problem solve using Algebra
- Analyze and solve linear equations and inequalities

Science

- Participate in a Science fair
- Apply scientific inquiry method to work and experimentation
- Study Biology, Chemistry and Geology

Social Studies

- Identify the rights, duties and responsibilities of US citizens
- Understand early American history and the formation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights

Religion

- Describe the major traditions of our Catholic, Christian roots
- Recognize holy people of other traditions
- Integrate the skill of peacemaking in daily actions

Art

- Identify different styles of art
- Visualize and draw real objects
- Understand proportion and distance

Music

- Understand and demonstrate rhythm
- Know the instruments in an orchestra
- Explore modern music

Technology

- Build keyboarding skills
- Develop skills in word processing, spreadsheets and slideshow presentations

Physical Education

- Participate and demonstrate sportsmanship in team sports
- Understand the importance of physical fitness and exercise

Foreign Language—Spanish

- Build vocabulary of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs
- Participate in conversations in Spanish
- Learn about the culture and traditions of Spanish speaking countries