

Seventh Grade Curriculum

Bible – Route 66, Positive Action

Route 66 is a road map to give an aerial view of God's Word. Students become acquainted with the Bible as a whole and prepared for deeper studies later in high school. They learn basic principles repeated through scripture including sin, redemption, mercy, love, and truth.

English 7

Elements of Literature – First Course

- In class, we read short stories, essays, poetry, informational texts, and biographies with an emphasis on analyzing plot, characters, themes, main ideas, and points of view.
- A different style of book report is assigned each quarter to further comprehension skills.

Wordly Wise – Book 7

- Throughout the year, new words are introduced and used to complete activities that enhance vocabulary development.

World of Language 7

- Lessons reinforce the proper use of language mechanics such as nouns, pronouns, verbs, and modifiers.
- Students have opportunity to write stories, poetry, and essays to develop effective writing skills.
- Public speaking experiences are given for both the formal and informal sharing of information.

Social Studies – Where on Earth (Geography and Environment), J. Weston Walsh

The course begins with learning map skills, exact and relative location on the earth. We proceed using the five themes of geography, location, place, man and environment, movement and regions. Geography vocabulary and map skills and memorization are part of the course. This course is taught from a Biblical worldview

Science – (7th & 8th Grade do a 2-year rotation) Earth Science, Glencoe Science

This course is designed to promote scientific knowledge, skills, literacy, and attitudes. It encourages students to continue their exploration of the world and universe around them. The material is presented in a way so as to challenge the learner to make personal decisions regarding the origin of the earth and the universe. Students are encouraged to give praise to God based on the creative and miraculous wonders of His creation.

This is done through the study of the following units : Atoms , Minerals , Rocks, Landforms, Maps, Weathering , Erosion, Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Fossils, Earth's Air and Water, Oceanography, and Astronomy !!

Life Science – Glencoe Science

This course is designed to promote scientific knowledge, skills, literacy, and attitudes. The content includes a study of the structures of life, the processes of life, the classification of life, and the balance of life. These are studied through the following units : Life's structure and function (the study of cells) , From Bacteria to Plants (study of plants) , Animal Diversity (study of animals and behavior) , and lastly Human Body Systems . God is presented as the Creator and Designer of all life. Students are encouraged to be amazed by God as they study His creation. They are also actively challenged to participate in the world around them by becoming aware of the scientific advances and discoveries related to their area of study.

Mathematics – beginning in 7th grade accelerated students move into an Honors track

Math 7, McDougal Littell Middle School

This course is designed to give students a general knowledge in basic computation and build a foundation for Algebra 1. There is an emphasis on math vocabulary to help students solve problems and understand basic math concepts. The course covers fractions, decimals , integers, rational numbers, geometry, and pre-Algebra.

Pre-Algebra, McDougal Littell

This course is designed to prepare the student to move on to Algebra I. There is a section of 7th grade students and a section of 8th and 9th grade students. The course introduces and covers fractions (all operations), positive and negative numbers, solving algebraic expressions and equations using fractions and decimals, order of operations and some graphing of numbers.

Spanish - ¿Cómo te va?, Glencoe McGraw-Hill

This is rudimentary Spanish organized into twenty simple lessons each introducing snippets of vocabulary designed to grab student interest and enable successful communication. As each lesson is studied, students build confidence functioning with the unfamiliar pronunciation and sentence structures of a foreign language. The geography and culture of the Hispanic world are also explored.

Eighth Grade Curriculum

Bible - Wise up--Wisdom in Proverbs, Positive Action; Do Hard Things by Alex and Brett Harris

Wise-Up is an in-depth study in the book of Proverbs. Students are reminded of who God is and the importance of His claim on their lives. They learn why they were created and how they can honor God with their lives. Students also learn how to deal with different kinds of relationships and how to live out the principles they learn from Proverbs.

Do Hard Things is a book we go through together. It is a challenge to live in a way to rise above the low expectations placed on teens today. It challenges teens to "do hard things" and live with integrity and wisdom. This book is a great way to put into practice the things they learn in the Wise-Up book.

English

Elements of Literature – Second Course

- Students read short stories, essays, biographies, autobiographies, poetry, drama, and informational texts to improve reading skills and learn the basic elements of literature.
- Various types of book reports are assigned each quarter to focus on different areas of literature.

Wordly Wise – Book 8

- New vocabulary is introduced throughout the year with activities to strengthen word development.

World of Language 8

- Language mechanics such as the proper use of adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions are stressed.
- Students write essays, stories, poetry and a mini research paper to improve writing skills.
- Opportunities are given for public speaking.

Social Studies - New Jersey: A Journey of Discovery, (Layton, UT. : Gibbs Smith, 2004) written by Thomas, Courtney J, and Gibson, Carrie.

This survey of New Jersey history will cover the development of New Jersey including the Native American inhabitants, the Lenape, European colonization, the Colonial period, the American Revolution, the Jacksonian Era, slavery and the Civil War; the Industrial Revolution, labor union movements, immigration, women's suffrage, race issues and relations, the Great Depression, World War II, post World War II, and the state government. The course will use New Jersey history as a means of exploring the major themes of United States history. Therefore, the themes of United States history, such as European colonization, the American Revolution, slavery, industrialization, etc., are amplified by local history. This approach will also give students a greater sense of place as New Jersey residents.

Science – (7th & 8th Grade do a 2-year rotation) Earth Science, Glencoe Science

This course is designed to promote scientific knowledge, skills, literacy, and attitudes. It encourages students to continue their exploration of the world and universe around them. The material is presented in a way so as to challenge the learner to make personal decisions regarding the origin of the earth and the universe. Students are encouraged to give praise to God based on the creative and miraculous wonders of His creation.

This is done through the study of the following units : Atoms , Minerals , Rocks, Landforms, Maps, Weathering , Erosion, Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Fossils, Earth's Air and Water, Oceanography, and Astronomy !!

Life Science – Glencoe Science

This course is designed to promote scientific knowledge, skills, literacy, and attitudes. The content includes a study of the structures of life, the processes of life, the classification of life, and the balance of life. These are studied through the following units : Life's structure and function (the study of cells) , From Bacteria to Plants (study of plants) , Animal Diversity (study of animals and behavior) , and lastly Human Body Systems . God is presented as the Creator and Designer of all life. Students are encouraged to be amazed by God as they study His creation. They are also actively challenged to participate in the world around them by becoming aware of the scientific advances and discoveries related to their area of study.

Mathematics – 8th Grade students are placed in math classes based on ability

8th Grade Math - McDougal Littell Middle School Math, Course 3

This class is designed for students who are not quite ready for Pre-Algebra. Most of the topics covered are similar to those covered in Pre-Algebra, however, we are able to take extra time to give the students the practice necessary to gain an understanding of concepts necessary to move on to Pre-Algebra and Algebra. Topics covered include

- Operations with integers, order of operations
- Evaluating variable expressions and equations and inequalities
- Use area, perimeter, and distance formulas to find missing dimensions
- Coordinate graphing
- Fraction and decimal operations
- Ratios and Proportions

Pre-Algebra, McDougal Littell

This course is designed to prepare the student to move on to Algebra I. There is a section of 7th grade students and a section of 8th and 9th grade students. The course introduces and covers fractions (all operations), positive and negative numbers, solving algebraic expressions and equations using fractions and decimals, order of operations and some graphing of numbers.

Algebra 1 – Holt McDougal

This course assumes that the student has a working knowledge of fractions and integers as well as familiarity with negative numbers. Topics include exponential notation, solving for a variable, multivariable equations, polynomials, graphing linear equations, trinomials, and quadratic equations. The course utilizes a building block approach in presenting the material. The course is conducted in such a manner as to insure that each student is proficient at each level before moving on.

Spanish – 8th grade students qualify for Foundations of Spanish or high school Spanish 1 based on their proficiency in 7th grade Spanish.

Foundations of Spanish - Buen Viaje, Glencoe McGraw-Hill

This class is designed to introduce the basics of the Spanish language. The focus is on vocabulary acquisition and learning basic Spanish grammar rules. In addition, students become familiar with the geography of the Spanish-speaking world and its culture. Practice in all four of the basic components of language acquisition are incorporated in order to maximize success. Those four components are reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

Spanish 1 - introduces the foundational grammar concepts requisite to communication. Specifically, nouns introduce the concepts of gender and noun / adjective / article agreement. Verb conjugation is limited to the present tense but includes regular, irregular, stem-changing forms, a substitute for the future tense (what one “is going” to do) the difference between ser and estar, and idioms using the verb tener. The difference between formal and informal tone is emphasized. Word order in questions, statements, negative statements is practiced. Contractions, possessive adjectives, subject pronouns, prepositional pronouns and the personal a make up the balance of first year grammar concepts. Basic vocabulary is presented, drilled and practiced through the emphasis on the communication skills.