

WHAT TO EXPECT IN Sixth Grade

HISTORY

Students use *Remember the Days: Early Modern Days* and *Remember the Days: Modern Days* as the main textbooks. The focus is on American history spanning 1600-2000 but also includes world history, missionary highlights, and geography. In addition, students also read *The Story of the Thirteen Colonies* and *The Great Republic* as they study the founding of our country.

MATH

In sixth-grade, our students transition from Saxon to Prentice Hall's *Mathematics Course 2*.

Topics include:

- Decimals, integer, exponents, factors, fractions
- Algebraic equations and inequalities
- Ratios, rates, proportions, percents
- Geometry and measurement
- Graphing in a coordinate plane
- Displaying and analyzing data
- Using probability

Goals include:

- Increase confidence in solving multi-step non-formulaic word problems.
- Incorporate algebraic variables into core math concepts and computations.
- Utilize integers throughout the curriculum to gain mastery of standard operations

ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Students continue to boost their understanding and application of grammar with the text *Well-Ordered Language 4A/4B*. Additionally, students continue to learn to compose in various writing formats. Students create short stories and write essays to help them develop their writing skills and express themselves in their own unique voice with a focus on the writing process.

LITERATURE

The classical purpose for teaching literature is to cultivate wisdom and virtue within a student so he or she is better able to know and enjoy God and the world He has made. To that end, HCA seeks to choose genuine classics that lift students from the realm of mere pragmatism to the realm of ideals (virtue, truth, beauty) so that they develop the capacity to think God's thoughts after Him as they encounter them in the Scriptures. In sixth grade these titles include:

- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes
- *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Amos Fortune - Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates
- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

At the end of sixth grade, students are able to read, discuss, and evaluate passages similar to the following:

Treasure Island p.143

So I must have lain for hours, continually beaten to and fro upon the billows, now and again wetted with flying sprays, and never ceasing to numbness, an occasional stupor, fell upon my mind even in the midst of my terrors; until sleep at last supervened, and in my sea-tossed coracle I lay and dreamed of home and the old "Admiral Benbow."



MEMORY WORK

Each year of middle school, our sixth through eighth grade students memorize a different book of the Bible. This three year rotation is Philippians, Colossians, and 1st Peter.

LATIN

Having finished *Second Form Latin*, sixth-grade students advance to *Cambridge Latin Course Unit 1*. Students begin to read continuous Latin texts, and gain regular practice hearing and speaking Latin. The focus of *Third Form Latin* is Latin grammar and a small, usable vocabulary.

- Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs
- Indicative Active and Passive Verbs
- Subjunctive Active and Passive Verbs
- Adjectives and Numbers
- Pronouns

SCIENCE

Students in sixth grade study Life Science using *Life Science, Middle School*. Topics include the scientific method, microscopes and measurements, taxonomy, characteristics of life, cells, bacteria, viruses, fungi, plants, animals, ecology, heredity, and genetics. Over the course of the year, students dissect earthworms, frogs, and flowers; divide planaria to watch them regenerate; observe and identify diverse protists, and dive deep into cell structure and DNA. Life Science is divided each week between instruction and hands-on lab.

ENRICHMENT / SPECIALS

- Daily convocation
- Weekly art, music, physical education, and chorale classes
- Twice per month students participate in a Scholé class. With the aim of a restful learning environment, this class focuses on appreciating the cohesiveness of different disciplines.
- Students have many opportunities to grow spiritually and academically through service projects, our mentoring program and a Colonial Ball.

