

Sixth Grade



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.”



MATH

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

Topics Include:

- ✓ Decimals, integer, exponents, factors, fractions
- ✓ Algebra 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 *God’s Gift of Language C*. Additionally, students continue working through the Institute for Excellence in Writing Program with *US History-Based Writing Lessons* to develop their writing skills and techniques. Literature and History studies are integrated with writing assignments throughout the course.



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 1600-1950 but also includes World history, Missionary highlights, and U.S. Geography. In addition, students also read *The Story of the Thirteen Colonies* and *The Great Republic* as they study the founding of our country.



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.



LATIN

Having finished *Second Form Latin*, sixth-grade students advance to *Third Form Latin*, the third in a four-year series. The focus of the Form Series 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



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MEMORY WORK

Each year of middle school, our sixth through eighth-grade students memorize a different book of the Bible. This three year rotation includes *James, Philippians, and Galatians*.



OTHER

- ✓ Weekly Art, Music, PE and Chorale
- ✓ 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.

