Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten is an exciting experience and serves as the foundation for a child’s future. Peoria Unified offers free, full-day kindergarten in a rigorous, engaging, safe and nurturing environment with highl-qualified teachers that help children be successful throughout their educational journey.

In Kindergarten, children will gain skills which will help them learn how to read and write. They will learn social skills, emotional skills, listening skills, concepts in literacy, mathematics, science and social studies. They are also exposed to physical education and special area classes such as art and music.

Kindergarten is so much more than learning the A, B, C's - it is where creativity is encouraged and bright minds blossom in a fun, safe environment. In Peoria Unified, we strive to make this an easy adjustment for parents to ensure their children are well-prepared for the best educational experience possible.

Explore our Kindergarten Parent Handbook

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, reading, etc.) was hard or easy today? What is something you can show me that you learned today? What are you wondering about that you heard or learned?

SUPPORT AT HOME

- Read regularly with your child.
- Talk about the world around them.
- Share your thinking as you accomplish tasks using phrasing such as "I know when I..." or "I thought to myself..."
- Ask them questions.
- Ask if they have any questions.
- When you're out and about, play I-Spy with the starters like, "I spy something that begins with the sound..." or "I spy something that comes in 2s".
- Ask your child to count out items with you.

STATE AND DISTRICT SUPPORT LINKS

- Arizona Department of Education
- Arizona State Academic Standards
- Peoria Unified School District
  - Family Resources
  - Curriculum & Instruction
  - School Year Calendar
  - ParentVue
  - iReady Login from Home
- Reading and Math
**English Language Arts**  
**FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS**
Understand basic features of print. 
Recognize and orally manipulate sounds. 
Blend sounds to read written words. 
Read and recognize sight words and different syllable types. 
Use phonics to write words. 
Share thoughts and ideas in writing.

**READING**
Fiction texts (literature):
- Ask and answer questions about stories, poems and unknown words. 
- Identify and retell key details, characters, and setting. 

Nonfiction texts (information):
- Recognize parts of nonfiction text 
- Identify and retell key details. 
- Ask and answer questions about the world around them.

**WRITING**
Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing. 
Explore digital tools for communication. 
Generate ideas for writing from reading. 
Make connections to the world around them. 
Write upper and lowercase letters. 
Separate simple words into their syllables. 
Write frequently used words.

**Mathematics**
Know number names and counting order. 
Count to tell the number of objects. 
Understand the quantity of a number 0-20. 
Understand place value of numbers 0-20. 
Add and subtract (using strategies) 0-10.

**Science**
Use senses to help make observations and predictions about the world around them, recognizing patterns and comparing the structures and functions of living and non-living things.

**Social Studies**
Understand roles and responsibilities as citizens within their own world, through an introduction to civics, geography, economics, and history. Students will also learn about their own culture and how it impacts understanding of oneself and others as well as be introduced to aspects of our National culture.
- Importance of rules and responsibilities 
- Individual roles in a community 
- Personal decision-making 
- Familiarity with geographic models 
- Culture in the home, school and community 
- American symbols, holidays and traditions

**Physical Education**
Flexibility: touches toes
Hop: 3 times with both feet
Jump: right foot to left foot, 7 in a row
Skip: straight line
Gallop: with dominant foot leading
Slide: with dominant foot leading
Balance: heel to toe walk for 10 seconds
Underhand Throw: bean bag or small ball
Bounce Catch: times with playground ball

**Music**
Identify and apply to performance the following:
- Voices: singing, talking, shouting, whisper 
- Musical symbols and vocabulary: steady beat, echo, opposite 
- Dynamics: loud and quiet 
- Meter/Movement: Move to the steady beat 
- Aural recognition: high/low 
- Aural perception: same/different, high/low, fast/slow, long/short 
- Instrument families: body percussion (pat, clap, snap, stamp)

**Visual Arts**
Identify art in the world around them. 
Identify the following elements of art in artwork and in life, and create artwork using the following elements of art:
- Color Schemes: Primary (red, yellow, blue) and secondary (orange, green, violet) 
- Line: Wavy, zig-zag, broken, thin, thick, horizontal, vertical, diagonal 
- Shape: Geometric (diamond, rectangle, circle, triangle, star, oval, square)

**Technology**
Start to learn about Internet Safety. Begin computer fundamentals - using a mouse and keyboards as input devices, locating the alphabet on the keyboard and entering their usernames and passwords. 
Work with multimedia to draw lines to tell a digital story.
Introduce visual mapping and computational thinking by finding and identifying patterns.

**ADOPTED CURRICULUM**
Arizona State Academic Standards

**CURRICULAR RESOURCES**
Fundations
Benchmark Advance
Step Up to Writing
iReady Reading
MyMath
iReady Math
The PBL Project
Learning.com
Discovery Education

Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject
Welcome to First Grade

First grade is a year full of wonderful educational opportunities as students begin to deepen and expand upon their emergent learning from kindergarten. The world around first graders provides a rich environment to practice, explore, and strengthen their reading, writing, and math skills. Creating strong phonological awareness is a hallmark of this grade as students will use the skills and knowledge developed in reading, across all other subject areas, and into their own personal lives.

Students are learning to read and reading to learn! Writing is essential for students to learn how to express thoughts and ideas through written form.

Math focuses on basic addition and subtraction and working with numbers to 100. Students will experience and engage in science and social studies with an emphasis on community, systems, cycles, and relationships.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, reading, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn’t yesterday? What was your biggest thought today?
**English Language Arts**

**FOUNDATION SKILLS**
Recognize and orally manipulate sounds. Blend sounds to read written words. Read and recognize sight words, word endings, and syllable types.

**READING**
Fiction texts (Literature)
- Ask and answer key questions about a text
- Retell stories, focusing on the main idea
- Use key details to describe the characters, setting, and major events
- Identify who is narrating the story

Nonfiction texts (Informational)
- Retell key details focusing on the main idea
- Ask and answer questions about the world around them
- Use text illustrations to explain main idea
- Identify/use text features (headings, tables, glossaries, etc.)
- Identify reasons an author gives to support an idea

**WRITING**
Write opinion and explanatory pieces
Write stories with sequenced events and details
Recall information (experience/learning) to answer a question
Explore digital tools for communication
Generate ideas for writing from reading
Make connections to the world around them
Write manuscript/print letters
Correctly spell frequently used words
Apply phonetic knowledge when writing
Use nouns, verbs, & adjectives to express ideas
Produce complete sentences
Capitalize dates and names of people

**Mathematics**
Work with numbers to 100, comparing, sequencing, finding 10 more or 10 less of any two-digit mentally.
Order three objects by length.
Tell and write time to the hour and half hour on both a digital and analog clock.
Add and subtract fluently through 20.
Understand place value of all numbers through 100.

**Social Studies**
Understand how a community functions and how each member contributes for the common good. Students will study their local community and learn about characteristics that define urban, suburban, and rural communities. Democratic principles and participation in government are introduced. Community resources, environment, change over time, and cause/effect are examined.
- Understanding perspectives of others
- School and community functions of government
- Earn, spending, and saving money
- Using geographic models
- Effects of human movement
- Cooperation and compromise
- American symbols and traditions

**Science**
Develop an understanding of causal relationships as they investigate how objects can impact other objects from a distance or by contact with each other. Students also develop systems thinking as they investigate how organisms interact with Earth for survival, and how life systems have cycles.

**Music**
Identify and apply to performance the following:
- Rhythmic durations: quarter rest, quarter note, and paired eighth notes
- Musical symbols and vocabulary: treble clef and repeat sign
- Dynamics: loud and quiet
- Meter/Movement: march/sway, sets of 2, 3 and 4
- Aural perception: beat vs. rhythm vs. no beat
- Instrument families: percussion
- Solfège: So mi la

**Physical Education**
Flexibility: touches toes
Abdominal Strength: 5 curl ups
Skip: straight line
Gallop: with dominant foot leading
Slide: with dominant foot leading
Stationary Balance: dominant/non dominant foot 10 sec
Moving Balance: heel toe walk 10 sec
Underhand Throw: bean bag/small ball
Catch: small ball
Dribbling: stationary 7 times

**Visual Arts**
Identify art in the world around them.
Identify the following elements of art in artwork and in life, and create artwork using the following elements of art:
- Color Schemes: primary and secondary, warm and cool.
- Adding and mixing colors.
- Line: Wavy, zig-zag, broken, thin, thick, horizontal, vertical, diagonal
- Shape: Geometric (diamond, rectangle, circle, triangle, star, oval, square) and Organic shapes
- Patterns: Recognize types of patterns and create patterns in my artwork

**Technology**
Extend Internet safety with safe site strategies and computer rules.
Build on computer basics including hardware fundamentals, using a keyboard to now not only locate keys, but also begin using keys to type letters and numbers aligned to Language Arts topics.
Introduce Word processing.
Work with multimedia as well as visual mapping by sorting sets and computational thinking by following sets of directions.

**ADOPTED CURRICULUM**
**Arizona State Academic Standards**

**CURRICULAR RESOURCES**
- Fundations
- Benchmark Advance
- Step Up to Writing
- iReady Reading
- MyMath
- iReady Math
- The PBL Project
- Learning.com
- Discovery Education

**Source:** Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject
Welcome to Second Grade

Second graders are settling in with their experiences from kindergarten and first grade. It is a year to accelerate thinking, deepen understanding, and expand their skills. Students can build on what they have learned in previous years by reading more complex text, writing longer and detailed pieces, and engaging in research projects. These readers will compare and contrast multiple texts using the reading strategies they learned in kindergarten and first.

Similarly in math, students will strengthen their use of addition, subtraction, and place value strategies. Students may work with numbers to a hundred or thousand depending on the mathematical concept. Social students move from the community level of first grade into the world for second. Science builds on their understanding of systems, cycles, and causal relationships. Reading, writing, math, science, and social studies will work together to provide rich learning opportunities as students learn essential concepts across each subject area.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, reading, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn't yesterday? What was your biggest thought today?
**English Language Arts**

**Foundational Skills**
- Read words with common prefixes & suffixes.
- Read irregularly spelled words.

**Reading**
- Fiction texts (Literature)
  - Read and understand a variety of literature from multiple cultures
  - Identify key characteristics of literature
  - Describe overall structure of a story or poem
  - Ask and answer questions
  - Determine central idea of a story or poem
- Nonfiction texts (Informational)
  - Identify main ideas of multi-paragraph text
  - Ask and answer questions about the world around them
  - Make connections between historical events, scientific ideas, or steps in technical procedures
  - Use text features (headings, tables, glossaries, etc) to locate facts
  - Compare/contrast important points between two texts of the same topic

**Writing**
- Write opinion and explanatory pieces (supporting ideas, linking words, conclusion).
- Write narratives (events, actions, thoughts).
- Revise writing based on feedback.
- Gather information from provided sources to answer questions.
- Use correct grammar.
- Identify and write sounds, root words, prefixes, and suffixes.

**Mathematics**
- Add up to three, two-digit numbers.
- Solve story problems with addition of up to three, two-digit numbers, using any needed strategy to add and subtract through 1,000.
- Tell and write time to the nearest five minutes using an analog or digital clock.
- Recognize a variety of coins and bills to solve real-world problems involving collections of money.
- Understand place value of all numbers through 1,000 and add and subtract numbers within 100.

**Science**
- Develop an understanding of systems and system models along with energy and matter. Students develop an understanding of observable properties of matter, how energy changes matter, the distribution, and role of water and wind, and how life on Earth depends on an energy source.

**Social Studies**
- Develop understanding of the world around them to learn how other cultures and civilizations are interconnected and have influenced who we are as a community, state, and nation. Skills covered this year include:
  - Working together to solve problems
  - Individual and leadership roles
  - Earning, spending, and saving money in a global community
  - Identifying regions using geographic models
  - Influence of weather and climate
  - Development and change of civilizations and cultures
  - Societal institutions and their belief systems

**Music**
- Identify and apply to performance the following:
  - Rhythmic durations: half note, half rest, quarter note, eighth note pair.
  - Musical symbols and vocabulary: treble clef, staff, note head, stem, beam, etc
  - Dynamics: loud and quiet
  - Meter/Movement: waltz and march
  - Form: AB and ABA
  - Aural perception: solo, group, steady beat vs. rhythm, female voice, male voice
  - Melodic direction: moves up, moves down, stays the same
  - Instrument families: recognition of each family's tone quality, bass, alto, soprano
  - Solfège: So mi la

**Physical Education**
- Flexibility: palms on ground
- Abdominal Strength: 8 curl ups
- Skip: figure 8
- Gallop: transition from dominant to non-dominant
- Slide: transition from dominant to non-dominant
- Rhythm: jump rope 5 times
- Moving Balance: toe to heel walking backwards
- Underhand Throw: small ball
- Catch: small ball
- Dribbling: figure 8

**Visual Arts**
- Identify art in the world around them.
- Identify the following elements of art in artwork and in life, and create artwork using the following elements of art:
  - Color Schemes: Primary and secondary, Warm and cool.
  - Adding and mixing colors.
  - Line: Wavy, zig-zag, broken, thin, thick, horizontal, vertical, diagonal
  - Shape: Geometric (diamond, rectangle, circle, triangle, star, oval, square) and Organic shapes
  - Patterns: Recognize types of patterns and create patterns in my artwork

**Technology**
- Extend Internet safety with strategies for cyberbullying prevention.
- Build on knowledge of hardware fundamentals including printers, scanners and data storage.
- Introduce software fundamentals.
- Practice Keyboarding.
- Use Word processing to create document.
- Learn about databases and spreadsheets.

**Adopted Curriculum**
Arizona State Academic Standards

**Curricular Resources**
- Fundations
- Benchmark Advance
- Step Up to Writing
- iReady Reading
- MyMath
- iReady Math
- The PBL Project
- Learning.com
- Discovery Education

Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject

Peoria Unified School District
Third grade is filled with both new learning and extending understanding on previously learned skills and concepts. Students are becoming strategic and thoughtful readers who seek to make meaning of text. They are analyzers and super sleuth readers by breaking down texts, asking and answering questions, and using evidence to support thinking.

Multiplication, division, and fractions are highlight topics in math. Learning about the concepts of multiplication and division lay the foundation for math fact practice and fluency that also plays a big role in this grade level. Science will focus on energy and matter with structure and functions in relation to systems and system models. Arizona is the driving topic for Social Studies and what a wonderful way to learn about this great state.

It is a transitional grade level as children start as primary students and move into intermediate learners by the end of the year.

**Welcome to Third Grade**

Talking with and listening to your child every day about what is happening in school and their lives is a powerful way to support their learning. Encourage reading in any and all ways. It can be reading picture books, chapter books, restaurant menus, gaming guides, and project instructions. Have them create grocery lists, determine meals, plan trips, make invitations, and read recipes. The language of multiplication, division, and fractions can be part of daily dialogue. One is example is, “We need to divide this recipe in half, how much...” Don’t forget to ask questions to get them thinking and share your thinking as well!

**Daily Conversation Starters**
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, reading, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn’t yesterday? What was your biggest thought today?
English Language Arts

**FOUNTIONAL SKILLS**
Read words with common prefixes and suffixes, focusing on Latin suffixes.
Read irregularly spelled words.

**READING**
Fiction texts (Literature)
- Use reading strategies to recount and paraphrase
- Show knowledge of how parts of a text (e.g. chapters) build on each other
- Determine central idea of text and how key details contribute
- Locate text evidence to support answers and opinions
- Distinguish own point of view from that of the narrator or characters
- Compare/contrast themes, settings, and plots

Nonfiction texts (Informational)
- Show knowledge of how parts of text (e.g. paragraphs) build on each other
- Determine central idea of text and how key details contribute
- Locate evidence in text to support answers and opinions
- Make connections between series of historical events, scientific ideas or steps in technical procedures
- Find the meaning of key vocabulary words

**WRITING**
Write opinion & explanatory pieces (supporting ideas, linking words, conclusion).
Write narratives (events, actions, thoughts).
Revise writing based on feedback.
Conduct short research projects.
Gather information from sources to answer a question.
Produce writing that is organized for specific task, audience and purpose.
Spell regular two and three syllable words and one syllable words with less common spellings.

**Mathematics**
Understand place value to 1000.
Add and subtract multi-digit number to 1000.
Multiply and divide through 100.
Understand what it means to multiple and divide through strategies (e.g. equal-sized groups, arrays, etc.).
Understand that a fraction is a number.
Understand how to write a fraction and what the numerator and denominator stand for.

**Science**
Develop an understanding of systems and system models along with structure and function involving energy and matter.

Social Studies

Study Arizona within an integrated approach considering the following factors:
- The contributions of various cultural and ethnic groups including the 22 Indian Nations that reside in Arizona.
- Economic, political, and geographic elements.
- Structure of the state and local governments.
- Roles and responsibilities as citizens of Arizona.
- Examination of primary and secondary sources including written and oral histories, images, current events, and artifacts.
- Disciplinary skills and processes including change and continuity over time, multiple perspectives, using and understanding sources, and cause/effect.

Physical Education

Third graders will work on the following:
Cardiovascular Endurance: Run ¾ of a mile in 13 minutes.
Muscular Strength & Endurance: Complete 15 push-ups & 25 curl-ups.
Flexibility: Bend over & touch their toes with straight legs or sit down and touch their toes with straight legs.

Visual Arts

Identify art in the world around them.
Identify the following elements of art in artwork and in life, and create artwork using the following elements of art:
- Color Schemes: Primary (red, yellow, blue) and secondary (orange, green, violet), Warm (red, yellow, orange) and Cool (blue, green, violet)
- Tint: If I add white to a color, it will become lighter.
- Shade: If I add black to a color, it will become darker.
- Shape: 3D forms (sphere, cube, cylinder, pyramid, cone)
- Space: Positive space and negative space
- Balance: Symmetric, asymmetric, radial

Music

Identify and apply to performance:
- Pitches on the staff by location and note name
- Rhythmic durations: whole note, dotted half note, half note, quarter note, eighth note pair and corresponding rests
- Musical symbols: treble clef, measure, double bar line, repeat sign, triple and duple meter, piano, forte
- Visual intervals: repeat, step and skip
- Form: AB and AB
- Aural perception: unison, harmony, major, minor
- Melodic direction: moves up, moves down, stays the same
- Instrument families: woodwind, brass, percussion, strings
- Solfège: So mi la

Technology

Deepen understanding on online safety and strategies for cyberbullying, prevention and acceptable use policies introduced.
Practice touch keyboarding (mastery goal-5 WPM & 80% accuracy).
Begin studying network basics and device compatibility.
Use intermediate formatting in word processing.
Learn about spreadsheet navigation and algorithms and coding basics.

ADOPTED CURRICULUM
Arizona State Academic Standards
CURRICULAR RESOURCES
Fundations
Benchmark Advance
Step Up to Writing
iReady Reading
MyMath
iReady Math
The PBL Project
Learning.com
Discovery Education

Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject
Welcome to Fourth Grade

Fourth grade is about expanding educational horizons as readers, mathematicians, historians, and scientists. As with previous grades, it is an expectation that students read grade-level text. Learning how to navigate unfamiliar, complex, and unknown words and concepts will be essential in the school years to come (and in life).

Consider fourth grade the year of multiples. Reading, processing, comparing, contrasting, and analyzing multiple texts in reading. In social studies learning is focused on multiple historical concepts, theories, and events of the Americas. Science is delving further into systems, system models, change, and stability. The mathematical concepts highlighted in fourth grade include multi-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Students use what they learned in third grade to further amplify these in fourth grade.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, ELA, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn’t yesterday? Tell me about your grades in (math, ELA, etc.) What can I help you with or study? What’s coming up in (math, ELA, etc)?
**English Language Arts**

**FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS**
Use a variety of strategies to determine what an unfamiliar or unknown word means. Self-check understanding when reading text.

**READING**
Fiction texts (Literature)
- Use key details to determine theme
- Use text details to make inferences, make comparisons, and connect ideas
- Refer to the text when asking or answering questions
- Explore differences between poems, plays, & stories
- Determine meaning of key words & phrases
- Compare how similar ideas & themes are presented in texts from different cultures

Nonfiction texts (Informational)
- Determine how structure and presentation help organize ideas and details in text
- Determine central idea of text and how key details contribute
- Locate text evidence to support answers and opinions
- Make connections between series of historical events, scientific ideas or steps in technical procedures
- Find the meaning of key vocabulary words
- Use various text features (e.g. glossary) to locate key information

**WRITING & LANGUAGE**
Write opinion & explanatory pieces (supporting ideas, linking words, conclusion).
Write narratives (events, details, dialogue, etc).
Revise writing based on feedback.
Conduct short research projects (covering different aspects of a topic).
Gather information to answer questions.
Produce writing organized for specific task, audience and purpose.
Use 4th grade grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
Construct proper paragraph.
Determine word meaning using root words (Greek, Latin), prefixes, suffixes, text clues and dictionaries.

**Mathematics**
Add and subtract multi-digit numbers.
Understand place value through 1,000,000.
Multiply and divide multi-digit number.
Add and subtract fractions with like denominators, multiply by them by whole numbers, and learn about equivalent fractions.

**Science**
Apply systems and system models as students investigate how energy and the availability of resources affects Earth systems (geosphere and biosphere). They also develop an understanding of stability and change with regards to how populations of organisms and Earth have changed over time.

**Social Studies**
Study the Americas:
- Theories of first peopling of the Americas.
- The development of Mesoamerican and South American civilizations.
- American Indian life in the Americas prior to European exploration the peoples in the Southwest, Pacific Northwest, nomadic nations of the Great Plains, and the woodland peoples east of the Mississippi River.
- Causes and consequences of European exploration and colonization.
- Environmental, political, and cultural consequences of the interactions among European, African, and American Indian peoples in the late 15th-17th centuries.
- Regional settlement patterns, significant developments, and life in the Southern, Middle, and New England colonies.
- Roles and responsibilities as members of a society.
- Contributions of various cultural and ethnic groups to the development of the Americas.
- Examination of primary and secondary sources.
- Disciplinary skills and processes-change and continuity over time, multiple perspectives, using and understanding sources, and cause & effect.

**Music**
Identify and apply to performance:
Pitches on the staff by location & note name
Rhythmic durations: whole note, dotted half note, half note, quarter note, eighth note pair and corresponding rests
Musical symbols: treble clef, measure, double bar line, repeat sign, triple and duple meter, piano, forte
Visual intervals: repeat, step and skip
- Form: AB and AB
- Aural perception: unison, harmony, major, minor
- Melodic direction: moves up, moves down, stays the same
- Instrument families: woodwind, brass, percussion, strings
- Solfège: Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So

**Physical Education**
Fourth graders will work on the following:
Cardiovascular Endurance: Run a mile in 13 minutes.
Muscular Strength & Endurance: Complete 20 push-ups & 30 curl-ups.
Flexibility: Bend over & touch their toes with straight legs or sit down and touch their toes with straight legs.

**Visual Arts**
Identify art in the world around them.
Identify the following elements of art in artwork and in life, and create artwork using the following elements of art:
- Color Schemes: Primary (red, yellow, blue) and secondary (orange, green, violet), Warm (red, yellow, orange) and Cool (blue, green, violet)
- Tint: If I add white to a color, it will become lighter.
- Shade: If I add black to a color, it will become darker.
- Shape: 3D forms (sphere, cube, cylinder, pyramid, cone)
- Space: Positive space and negative space
- Balance: Symmetric, asymmetric, radial

**Technology**
Learn safekeeping of personal information and communicating online.
Practice keyboard at 10 WPM & 80% accuracy.
Learn online information basics.
Master creating and organizing information.
Gain proficiency in proofreading and editing word processing.
Begin learning about databases and presentation software.
Learn modeling in coding basics.

**ADOPTED CURRICULUM**
Arizona State Academic Standards

**CURRICULAR RESOURCES**
Benchmark Advance
Step Up to Writing
iReady Reading
iReady Math
MyMath
Learning.com
Discovery Education

Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject
Welcome to Fifth Grade

Fifth grade is a year of developing a greater degree of independence. Students are acquiring advanced problem solving and decision making strategies. They have increased their listening and responding skills. Flexible thinking becomes a driving force. Students reading grade level text, nonfiction and fiction, is essential for them, just has it has been in previous years. Cross-curricular integration in social studies and science occurs as students learn their social studies and science concepts using English language arts as a vehicle to obtain, process, and understand. Evidence, directly from the text, is amplified in this grade level as students will use direct quotes to explain and justify responses. Social studies focuses on the American Revolution to Industrialism and science examines matter, genetics, and our earth. This is the year students join band, sing in choir, and pursue visual art. It’s the beginning of the transition phase from elementary into middle school.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, ELA, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn’t yesterday? Tell me about your grades in (math, ELA, etc.) What can I help you with or study? What’s coming up in (math, ELA, etc)?
Mathematics

Understand the American Revolution to Industrialism (1763 to 1900s)
- Industrialism (the American Revolution, constitutional convention, westward expansion, Civil War and Reconstruction, & growth of industrial and urban America.)
- Economic, political, and geographic elements.

Science

Apply understanding of scale at micro levels as students investigate changes in matter and at macro levels as they investigate patterns of genetic information and movement between Earth and Moon.
Welcome to Sixth Grade

Sixth grade is the year when students most likely start traveling between classes. It’s the tail end of the transition from elementary to middle school. The day typically begins in homeroom, checking in for the day before they head out to core academic and special area classes. Sixth grade helps students gain greater degrees of independence, responsibility, and self-management.

The journey of sixth grade includes increasingly complex text, both fiction and nonfiction. This is a year of integrating evidence to support thinking, using technology across content areas for researching and presenting, and working with peers to deepen understanding and strengthen writing. In math, the focus is on developing competency and understanding with whole numbers and fractions, ratios, expressing, equations and inequalities. Social studies will focus on the Eastern Hemisphere and science is all about the cycling of matter, energy flow, and scale.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, ELA, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn’t yesterday? What is challenging you right now? Tell me about your grades in (math, ELA, etc.) What can I help you with or study? What’s coming up in (math, ELA, etc.)?

STATE AND DISTRICT SUPPORT LINKS

Arizona Department of Education
Arizona State Academic Standards
Peoria Unified School District
  Family Resources
  Curriculum & Instruction
  School-Year Calendars
  ParentVue
iReady Login from Home
Reading and Math

SUPPORT AT HOME

Talking with and listening to your child every day about what is happening in school and their lives is a powerful way to support their learning.

Sixth grade is an exciting year for students to dialogue and discuss their school life with those in their home life. Draw connections to what they are learning in school to their extracurricular activities.

Ask them to share their thinking and continue to ‘think out loud’ to model decision making and processing. Your child may need help organizing and establishing a system to stay current with school, extracurricular, and home life expectations.
English Language Arts

READING
Cite textual evidence to support analysis and inferences. Write summaries of text distinct from personal opinions and judgments. Fiction texts (Literature)
- Analyze elements of literature, including an author's use of figurative language and how a specific part of a text contributes to structure.
- Compare and contrast how texts from different genres address similar themes or topics.
- Analyze characters, setting, plot, and theme. Nonfiction texts (Informational)
- Integrate information from a variety of texts to determine different points of view.
- Analyze how details build the central idea and purpose of a text.
- Determine ideas supported and not by evidence.
- Make accurate inferences based on cited evidence found in a text.

WRITING & LANGUAGE
Write argumentative & explanatory pieces with evidence to support ideas, linking words, precise vocabulary, and a conclusion and maintain formal style. Write narratives (events, details, dialogue, etc.). Revise writing based on feedback. Conduct short research projects through investigation. Plan, draft, revise and edit to produce writing. Use 6th grade grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Construct proper paragraph. Determine word meaning using Greek & Latin, root words prefixes, suffixes, text clues, & dictionaries. Determine nuances of word meaning using figurative language and word relationships.

Science
Apply understanding of the cycling of matter, energy flow, and scale, as it relates to molecules, geosphere, the solar system, and ecosystems.

Social Studies
View content through historical and geographic lenses. Sixth grade students will understand the cultural, religious, economic, and political systems of selected societies in the Eastern Hemisphere. Regions in the Eastern Hemisphere include the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, Asia (east, south, and southeast), and Oceania. A course on world regions and cultures can be approached from many angles and perspectives.

Mathematics
Find areas of polygons with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. Find volume of a rectangular prism with fractional edges. Use a geometric net to calculate surface area of rectangular prisms, triangular prisms, square pyramids, and tetrahedrons. Add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. Understand ratios. Write and solve one-step equations with one variable.

Music
Identify the parts of my instrument. Assemble, clean and maintain instrument. Produce a characteristic sound on my mouthpiece and my instrument (strings: pizzicato). Play the first 8 pitches presented in the beginning method book. Identify, count, and play the following rhythmic durations: whole note, half note, quarter note, eighth note pair, dotted half note and corresponding rests. Identify and apply to performance the following symbols: treble clef, bass clef, bar line, measure, double bar line, flat, sharp, natural, one measure repeat, repeat sign, fermata, common time, 4/4, 3/4, 2/4 time signatures, breath mark, accent, slur, tie, first and second ending. Identify & apply to performance the musical vocabulary: Tempo, solo, soli, tutti, duet, divisi, pick up note, articulation, embouchure, key signature. Percussion: Identify and apply to performance the following rudiments: Paradiddle, flam, flam tap, bounce strokes.

Physical Education
Sixth graders will work on the following: Cardiovascular Endurance: Run a mile in 11 minutes. Muscular strength and endurance: Complete 30 push-ups & 40 curl-ups. Flexibility: Bend over & touch their toes with straight legs or sit down and touch their toes with straight legs.

Visual Arts
Explore the impact of art in the world around them. Identify the following elements of art in artwork and life, and create artwork using them.
- Color Schemes: Primary, secondary, tertiary, neutral, analogous, complementary, warm, cool, tints and shades.
- Value: The lightness or darkness of a color or object.
- Space: size, placement, overlapping, proportion
- Balance: Symmetric, asymmetric, radial

Technology
Learn to be good digital citizens. Practice keyboard at 20 WPM & 80% accuracy. Use program menus and toolbars while demonstrating understanding of online ethics and effective search strategies. Use algorithmic problem solving. Build a program using coding skills. Analyze data using spreadsheets. Understand how to avoid plagiarism in word processing.

ADOPTED CURRICULUM
Arizona State Academic Standards
CURRICULAR RESOURCES
- MyPerspectives
- Step Up to Writing
- iReady Reading
- Glencoe Math
- ALEKS Math
- The PBL Project
- Learning.com
- Problem Attic
- Discovery Education

Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject
Welcome to Seventh Grade

Seventh grade officially means middle school is in action. Students have had experience moving between classes, managing their responsibilities, and have begun to develop independence. They are able to expand and deepen the skills they started to cultivate in sixth grade without the added intricacies that come with learning to be a middle school student.

Reading and writing become more complex. The texts students read are analyzed to a great degree, and inferences and summaries are supported with direct evidence. Comparing is a driving factor as students compare and contrast different perspectives, points of view, historical accounts, multiple versions of the same piece or topic. Like sixth grade, students write more complex responses and stories.

Technology is used to support research and development in all content areas. Math is all about probability, integers, proportional relationships, and manipulating expressions, equations, and inequalities fluently. Students learn the histories of Western Hemisphere and the Eastern Hemisphere in social studies. Science is all about forces and motions, energy transfer, and cells.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, ELA, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn't yesterday? What is challenging you right now? Tell me about your grades in (math, ELA, etc.) What can I help you with or study? What's coming up in school?
English Language Arts

READING
Cite textual evidence to support analysis and inferences and write objective summaries. Fiction texts (Literature)
- Analyze how key details build the central idea or theme of a text.
- Compare/contrast how texts from different genres address similar themes/topics.
- Analyze interaction of literary elements to consider their impact on one another.
- Determine central idea/theme of a text.
- Analyze intentional author choice by comparing and contrasting characters, points of view, structures, and mediums.
- Compare/contrast a written form of text to an audio, visual, or staged version of the text.
- Determine and analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.
Nonfiction texts (Informational)
- Analyze interaction between/among individuals, events, and ideas.
- Analyze claims by evaluating the supporting reasoning and evidence presented in a text.
- Analyze and evaluate how different authors present the same subject/topic through varying mediums.

WRITING & LANGUAGE
Develop and produce writing (argumentative, informational, narrative) for a variety of tasks, purposes, and audience. Develop arguments supported with reasoning and evidence (credible print and digital)
Begin to acknowledge opposing viewpoints. Plan, draft, revise, and edit writing tasks.
Use 7th grade grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
Use a variety of sentence structures to signal differing relationships among ideas.
Apply strategies to determine word, phrase, and figurative language meaning.

Mathematics
With probability:
- Determine the likelihood of an event happening on a scale of 0 to 1.
- Calculate the chance of an event occurring.
- Understand the difference between the theoretical and experimental probability.
- Determine between measures of center (mean, median, and mode) and variability (range and interquartile deviation.)
Add, subtract, multiply and divide integers, whole numbers, decimals, and fractions.
Understand and use proportional relationships to solve real-world problems.
Manipulate expressions, equations, and inequalities fluently.

Science
Investigate the relationship between forces and the changes in motion, how energy transfer impacts geologic and atmospheric processes, and the structure and function of cells.

Social Studies
Focus with historical and geographic lenses. Seventh grade students will understand the relationships and interactions between societies and cultures in both the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. United States history will be taught as it intersects with global issues.

Music
CHORAL
- Sing repertoire from a variety of cultures and genres.
- Evaluate performance of self and others using musical vocabulary.
- Visually identify steps and skips, and sight-read notes by steps and skips in sheet music.
- Identify and apply to performance musical vocabulary.
- Use solfège (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Ti) to support ear training.
- Identify, count, and play rhythmic durations: whole note, half note, dotted quarter note, quarter note, eighth note pair, single eighth note, single sixteenth note, syncopated rhythms and corresponding rests.
- Identify and apply the symbols: treble clef, bass clef, bar line, measure, double bar line, repeat sign, 4/4, 3/4, 2/4 time signatures, tie, first and second ending, ledger lines.

INSTRUMENTAL
- Understand the connection between music and other disciplines and events.
- Evaluate an ensemble and provide feedback.
- Choose repertoire based on the selected elements of music.
- Perform fluently (signatures): Winds- Ab Major, C Major, Chromatic (Scale only); Strings: C Major
- Identify, count, and play the following rhythmic durations: Four sixteenth notes, two-sixteenth eighth combination, eighth two-sixteenth combinations, dotted eighth-sixteen combination, syncopated rhythms, eighth note triplets
- Identify and apply musical vocabulary to performance
- Percussion: Identify and apply to performance the following rudiments: Seventeen stroke

Physical Education
Fourth graders will work on the following:
Cardiovascular Endurance: Run a mile in 11 minutes.
Muscular Strength and Endurance: Complete 30 push-ups and 40 curl-ups.
Flexibility: Bend over & touch their toes with straight legs or sit down and touch their toes with straight legs.

Visual Arts
Explore the impact of art in the world around them.
Identify the following elements of art in artwork & life, & create artwork using them.
- Color Schemes: Primary, secondary, tertiary, neutral, analogous, complementary, warm, cool, tints and shades.
- Value: Highlights and Shadows created by blending, hatching, stippling, and cross-hatching.
- Space: Depth, size, placement, overlapping, proportion, and perspective.
- Types of Art: Abstract, realism, non-objective, portrait, landscape, and still-life.

Technology
Learn to manage file structures and all about networks.
Practice keyboard at 20 WPM & 80% accuracy. Explore podcast technology.
Continue practicing effective search strategies. Practice technical writing and use collaborative tools in word processing, as well as design non-linear presentations while exploring functions, sharing and filtering in spreadsheets.

ADOPTED CURRICULUM
Arizona State Academic Standards

CURRICULAR RESOURCES
Myperspectives
Step Up to Writing
iReady Reading
Glencoe Math
ALEKS Math
The PBL Project
Problem Attic
Discovery Education

Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject
Welcome to Eighth Grade

Eighth grade is the year that leads to amazing change and growth. Students are starting to turn their eye towards high school and they have confidence in their abilities to navigate middle school. Students continue to explore choir, band, art, and areas of interest in Technology, Life, and Careers. Reading grade level complex text, analyzing and evaluating what is read, will help to strengthen flexible thinking. This builds from the seventh grade focus of compare and contrast. Evidence is essential to support reading and writing as has been from primary grades.

Technology plays a pivotal role throughout the daily life of an eighth grader. Math is all about the Pythagorean Theorem, coordinate planes, and irrational numbers. Sciences takes learning about forces and motions, energy transfer, and cells to the next level. Social Studies will guide students in learning American history and what it means to be a citizen. Embrace this year and enjoy all that comes with it.

Daily Conversation Starters
Tell me about the best part of your day. Do you think (math, ELA, etc.) was hard or easy today? Share something new you know today that you didn’t yesterday? What is challenging you right now? Tell me about your grades in (math, ELA, etc.) What can I help you with or study? What’s coming up in (math, ELA, etc)?
**English Language Arts**

**READING**
Fiction texts (Literature)
- Analyze central themes, including the roles of dialogue or incidents in developing the depth of the plot.
- Analyze intentional choices authors make by comparing modern works of literature to traditional pieces, citing evidence.
- Develop vocabulary by determining and analyzing the impact of specific word choice on meaning and tone.

Nonfiction texts (Informational)
- Analyze individuals, events, and ideas in informational text.
- Use evidence to support the inferences drawn from the text, and write an effective summary of a variety of texts.
- Analyze claims made in text by evaluating the supporting reasoning and evidence an author uses, and recognize conflicting and irrelevant evidence.
- Evaluate use of varying perspectives and mediums on the portrayal of subjects/topics by different authors.

**WRITING & LANGUAGE**
Develop and produce writing (argumentative, informational, narrative) for a variety of tasks, purposes, and audience.
Develop arguments supported with reasoning and evidence (credible print and digital)
Begin to acknowledge opposing viewpoints.
Plan, draft, revise, and edit writing tasks.
Use 8th grade grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
Apply strategies to determine word, phrase, and figurative language meaning.

**Mathematics**
Learn the Pythagorean Theorem and with it, prove if a triangle is a right triangle.
Calculate the distance on a coordinate plane by creating a right triangle and using the Pythagorean Theorem.
Construct scatter plots and
- Determine if there is negative, positive, or no correlation to the data given
- Draw lines of best fit and write an equation to match
- Interpret the meaning of the slope and intercepts of that line in a real-world situation.
Develop an understanding of irrational numbers and where they might fall on a number line.
Manipulate and understand linear equations, inequalities, and functions to describe quantitative relationships.

**Science**
Describe how cause-and-effect interact with stability and change to influence the natural world.

**Social Studies**
Focus with civic and economic lenses; citizenship and civic engagement will be taught through inquiry. Students make connections between historical and current/contemporary issues as a base for implementing change in society. They will recognize and practice their roles and responsibilities as both American and global citizens. United States History will focus on the major events that have their roots in the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and subsequent amendments.

**Music**

**CHORAL**
- Sing repertoire from a variety of cultures and genres.
- Evaluate performance of self and others using musical vocabulary.
- Visually identify steps and skips, and sight-read notes by steps and skips in sheet music. Identify and apply to performance musical vocabulary.
- Use solfège (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Ti) to support ear training.
- Identify, count, and play rhythmic durations: whole note, half note, dotted quarter note, quarter note, eighth note pair, single eighth note, single sixteenth note, syncopated rhythms and corresponding rests.
- Identify and apply the symbols: treble clef, bass clef, bar line, measure, double bar line, repeat sign, 4/4, 3/4, 2/4 time signatures, tie, first and second ending, ledger lines.

**Physical Education**
Fourth graders will work on the following:
Cardiovascular Endurance: Run a mile in 10 minutes.
Muscular Strength and Endurance: Complete 40 push-ups and 50 curl-ups.
Flexibility: Bend over & touch their toes with straight legs or sit down and touch their toes with straight legs.

**Visual Arts**
Explore the impact of art in the world around them.
Identify the following elements of art in artwork & life & create artwork using them.
- Color Schemes: Primary, secondary, tertiary, neutral, analogous, complementary, warm, cool, tints and shades.
- Value: Highlights and Shadows created by blending, hatching, stippling, and cross-hatching.
- Space: Depth, size, placement, overlapping, proportion, and perspective.
- Types of Art: Abstract, realism, non-objective, portrait, landscape, and still-life.

**Technology**
Learn to manage file structures and networks.
Practice keyboard at 30 WPM and 80% accuracy.
Explore podcast technology.
Continue practicing effective search strategies.
Practice technical writing and use collaborative tools in word processing, as well as design non-linear presentations while exploring functions, sharing and filtering in spreadsheets.