



STATE AND DISTRICT SUPPORT LINKS

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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.

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.

Students in junior high have a greater level of independence but still need guidance with organizing ways to stay current with school, extracurricular, and home life expectations.

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.

INSTRUMENTAL

- Understand the connection between music and other disciplines and events.
- Evaluate an ensemble and provide feedback using appropriate grade level terminology. 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-sixteenth combination, syncopated rhythms, eighth note triplets.
- Identify and apply: marcato accent, legato, cut time, pianissimo, sforzando, fortissimo
- Identify and apply musical vocabulary to performance.
- Percussion: Identify and apply to performance the following rudiments: Seventeen stroke roll, drag.

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.



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