



Molding Children for Christ's Service

MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Bible

Grade 7 – Practical lessons from the lives of Bible characters	Grade 8 – Practical lessons from the lives of Bible characters
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- How to have self-control
- Dealing with temptation
- Dealing with peer pressure
- Dealing with a lack of self-confidence
- Dealing with personal conflicts

- How to have self-control
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Chapel: Weekly for grades 7 - 8

- Student led praise team
- Guest speakers of pastors, teachers, camp directors, missionaries and professional speakers
- Student testimonies, drama performances and individual speakers
- Student led small groups
- Spiritual or Missions Emphasis Week with multiple chapels

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Mathematics

Grade 7 – Course II <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decimals and fractions operations• Types of graphs• Integer operations and equations and inequalities• Proportions and percents• Geometry• Square roots and probability	Grade 8 – Course III <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rational numbers• Equations, inequalities, exponents, square roots• Geometry• Proportions• Linear equations and graphing• Trigonometry and polynomials
	Algebra 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation of expressions involving signed numbers, exponents, roots and absolute value• Equations and inequalities involving absolute value• Scientific notation• Solution of equations with one unknown variable• Solution of simultaneous equations• Algebra of polynomials and rational expressions• Word problems with algebraic solutions• Graphing points and lines• Pythagorean theorem• Functions and functional notation• Direct and inverse variation

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

English

<p>Grade 7 – Grammar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of eight parts of speech • Correction of fragment and run-on sentences • Capitalization and punctuation rules reviewed through paragraphing of conversation • Participle, appositive and infinitive phrases • Subordinate clauses in complex sentences • Writing process through expository, descriptive and narrative writing • Journal writing skills in creative writing • Research paper written in conjunction with literary authors 	<p>Grade 8 – Grammar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of speech, parts and patterns of a sentence, verb and pronoun usage and mechanics • Verbal phrases, gerunds, infinitive and appositives • Simple, compound, complex and compound-complex sentences • Subordinate clauses emphasizing adjective, adverb and noun clauses • Research paper written conjunction with history curriculum • Writing process in expository, descriptive and narrative writing • Journal writing skills
<p>Grade 7 – Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions on a variety of literary genres through selected short stories and a novel • Discussion skills are developed through comprehension questions • Biblical stories, verses and truths are related through journal writing • Alliteration, onomatopoeia, similes, metaphors and personification in poetry • “The Westing Game” by Ellen Raskin 	<p>Grade 8 – Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions on a variety of literary genres through selected short stories and a novel • Communication skills further developed through comprehension questions • Biblical stories, verses and truths are related through journal writing • Alliteration, onomatopoeia, similes, metaphors and personification in poetry • <u>Daniel’s Story</u> by Carol Matas and a play version of <u>Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl</u> in conjunction with a trip to the Holocaust Museum
<p>Grade 7 – Spelling and Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty spelling and vocabulary words bi-weekly • Bi-weekly focus on these words, their meanings (both literal and figurative), their ranges of usage and their relationship to other words 	<p>Grade 8 – Spelling and Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty spelling and vocabulary words bi-weekly • Bi-weekly focus on these words, their meanings (both literal and figurative), their ranges of usage and their relationship to other words

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Science

Grade 7 – Life Science

- Biology introduction
- Scientific method as seen in various experiments
- Classification system to include levels of phyla and classes
- Parts and functions of the cell
- Genetics and mutation
- Creationism: What we believe and why
- Evolution: What they believe and the errors
- Characteristics of a phyla or class through the study of a representative organism
- Plants
- Observations of specimens, videos and hands on activities

Grade 8 – Earth Science

- Earth's motion
- Stars, sun, moon, asteroids, comets and meteors
- Planets
- Space exploration
- Meteorology
- Movement in the atmosphere
- Minerals and ores
- Rocks and fossils
- Mountains and hills
- Earthquakes and volcanoes

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Social Studies

Grade 7 – World Studies

- Cultural approach
- Ancient cultures of Mesopotamia and Egypt
- Greek and Roman civilizations
- Civilizations of the far east
- Major world religions and their basic belief system
- Western Europe: Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation

Grade 8 – American History

- Chronological survey course of American History beginning with exploration through the Civil War
- Study each of America's wars in terms of cause, contestants, course and consequences
- Study of the Constitution
- Study of key events of American history in light of the Presidential administration in which they occurred
- Read and respond to primary source documents
- Research and write a 3-5 page paper on a President
- Observe God's providence in the founding's, establishment and growth of America

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Technology Education

Grade 7 – Microcomputer Applications I	Grade 8 – Microcomputer Applications II
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Windows primer• Word processing• Excel spreadsheets• PowerPoint presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding Windows• Access database management• Advanced word processing• Advanced Excel spreadsheet operations• Advanced PowerPoint skills• Advanced Publisher

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Physical Education

Grades 6 - 8

- Increased skill on previously learned team competitions
- Increased skill on previously learned major sports units
- Minor sports introduction
- Presidential fitness testing for overall student fitness evaluations
- Rules of major sports
- Health units
- Students are expected to wear gym uniforms
- Taught separately with some activities being co-ed.

Spanish

Grade 8

- Appreciation of Spanish culture around the world
- Vocabulary presented relates to student's world: numbers, months, days, seasons, clothing, colors, familiar locations and telling time
- Simple conversation phrases
- Basic grammar concepts: noun-adjective agreement, gender and formation of plurals
- Question-answer sentence format

Library

Grades 6 – 8

- Availability in study halls
- Assistance with research materials and periodicals
- Internet access and website evaluation
- 7th grade library skills class

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Art Education

Grade 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art of the Middle Ages• Styles of the Italian and Northern Renaissance• Baroque style• Rococo artistic style	Grade 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neoclassical, Romantic and Early American artistic expression• Impressionism• Post Impressionism• Expressionism, Surrealism, Pop art and non-objective abstract form
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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Music Education

<p>Middle School Chorus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered to grades 6 – 8 • Choral session includes 2-4 part-singing • Instruction includes performance techniques, music reading and vocal production • Performances at winter and spring concerts, chapels and Middle School ACSI Fine Arts Festival in the spring • Competes annually at Music in the Parks 	<p>Beginner Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins in 5th grade but may include 6th – 8th graders who are beginners • Instrument selection must be approved by director to ensure a balanced band • Students need to rent, purchase or borrow an instrument • Two performances yearly • Private lessons required for all students • Basic musical and playing techniques are taught 	<p>Spring Drama Production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play and musical presented on alternating years in the spring and may include MS students • Subject to audition
<p>Middle School Vocal Ensemble</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection based on auditions from middle school chorus • Rehearses every Wednesday after school • Members expected to maintain a high level of musical endeavor as the music is more advanced 	<p>Concert Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available for qualified students in grades 6-12 <p>Please see HS Curriculum Overview for more information.</p>	

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Middle School Curriculum Overview

Supported Instruction Program

- Assists students who are experiencing academic difficulties
- Gives students the support needed in a one-on-one or small group environment
- Concentrates on supporting students' return to the regular classroom and performing independently without assistance or modifications
- Functions as a lab for students working on independent studies

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