

First Assembly Christian School Seventh Grade Curriculum

English

Seventh grade English emphasizes the practice and mastery of written and oral communication skills. This class strengthens grammar usage and mechanics, further studies the parts of speech and their functions, and exposes the students to research writing. Composition skills are developed as students study different modes of writing, particularly point-of-view, clarification, and descriptive. In addition to assigned compositions, students engage in independent self-selected writing. Students also participate in the North Carolina writing assessment, focusing part of the year on persuasive writing.

Text: World of Language 8 – Silver Burdett & Ginn’ Wordly Wise 4 – Educators Publishing Service, Inc.

Literature

In literature, students continue to develop reading skills and higher-order thinking skills, through whole class discussion, work, and the use of anthology. Students survey various types of literature and are evaluated on comprehension and literary devices. Through assigned reading, students are introduced to a variety of authors and to different genres of literature. Self-selected reading teaches students how to make good choices in their reading material and enhances reading for pleasure. Students also participate in a poetry unit.

Text: Glencoe Literature Course 2, The Outsiders – S. E. Hinton

Pre-Algebra

This 7th grade math course introduces the set of integers, the set of rational numbers, and properties. Operations with rational numbers are used in simplifying expressions, solving equations, inequalities, and proportions. Other topics include exponents, graphing on the coordinate plane, geometry, and volume, square roots, statistics and probability, and polynomials. Problem solving is emphasized throughout the year as students prepare for Algebra I.

Text: Pre-algebra – An Integrated Transition to Algebra and Geometry
Glencoe/McGraw-Hill.

7th Grade Math

This 7th grade math course is a continuation of Glencoe Mathematics Applications and Connections. It focuses on problem solving using integers and applying percents and fractions. It also investigates patterns in geometry and explores equations and functions in algebra as well. This course is designed to prepare students for pre-algebra in 8th grade.

Text: Glencoe Mathematics Applications & Connections Course II, McGraw Hill

Science

The seventh-grade curriculum is based on the study of *physical science*. We examine topics such as energy, motion, matter, chemistry, chemical reactions, waves, light, sound, electricity, magnetism, radioactivity and nuclear energy. An important objective is the mastery of the scientific method. Seventh grade students learn the scientific method as they devise their own experiments to find solutions to questions. At this stage of learning, the laboratory experience is very important. Seventh graders learn proper lab techniques, safety procedures and how the lab fits in with the scientific method. The Science Fair Project provides the students an opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of the scientific method. It is an individual project, and it requires 10 weeks work of investigation and PowerPoint presentation. The Science Fair is held in the spring.

Text: Glencoe Physical Science – McGraw-Hill

Social Studies

This curriculum deals with the world during the Modern age: 1500 – present. The textbook teaches World History from the perspective of Israel and God’s plan for the world. A special focus is placed on European History during this time period. The class explores many countries including Germany,

France, and Italy. A special interest is placed on the development and rise of England and its colonies. We trace the Modern Age from the Protestant Reformation all the way to the beginning of the Cold War. Included within this time frame is the study of the Renaissance, the French Revolution, the unification of Italy and Germany and the two World Wars. In addition to the history of these countries, we explore the development of their cultures, their science and industry, and European exploration. The development of the Protestant religion and the role it plays in our changing history is stressed, and Geography facts are integrated throughout the course.

Text: History of the World

Bible

Seventh grade Bible classes use the Josh McDowell and Ron Luce curriculum entitled The Revolt. The year is divided into four categories: A Transformed Life, A Crucified Life, A Separated Life, and A Mission in Life. Students are taught how to "walk out" the Christian life and become transformed into Christ's image and likeness. Many skits, object lessons, and discussions are used to bring excitement and fun to the units. Weekly Bible memory quizzes are given to accompany the sections studied.

Text: Revolt – Josh McDowell

Spanish

The purpose of this course is to expose the student to basic reading, writing, oral, and listening skills in Spanish. Emphasis is placed on students acquiring a working knowledge of the language to assist in their transition into high school.

Text: Realidades 1 – Prentice Hall

Computer Lab

The seventh-grade computer lab activities continue to become more advanced. These activities provide students with hands-on learning experiences and build on their working knowledge of computers. The students' knowledge for manipulating text and data within word processing, spreadsheets, and data base programs is expanded. Students create multimedia projects that correspond to classroom instruction.

Physical Education

Middle school physical education continues to develop gross-motor skills. The classes emphasize the use of these skills in organized sports activities. In addition, the classes focus on appropriate sportsmanship and conduct, and also teach the basic rules of each individual sport.

Peacemakers

Seventh grade students participate in this nine- week course, which deals with conflict resolution. Students are taught how to approach and resolve conflicts from a Christian perspective. Skills learned are practiced in class through role-plays, skits, and games.

Social Skills

Our objective is to build the students' self-esteem, self-concept and confidence in dealing with a variety of social situations. Emphasis is placed on communication and peer interaction. The highlight of this class is the students' planning and hosting of a formal dinner.