WOODLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

2009-2010

CURRICULUM PROFILE

8th

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Middle School

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Middle School

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Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability

The 8th grade student's day includes time for large group activities, small group activities, and individual self-directed activities that provide the children with truly integrated experiences.

The skills listed in each subject area provide a framework for classroom expectations. We recognize that children learn in different ways at different paces. Your child's teacher will be able to differentiate instruction on the basis of your child's interests within the subject, readiness for learning and learning style. Teachers use a variety of methods for assessing your child's learning.

If you have questions about what is taught in your child's classroom, please contact the teacher, the principal or the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability.

Subject Areas:

- **Language Arts**
- **Mathematics**
- **Social Studies**
- **Science**
- **Physical Education**
- **Health**
- **Art**
- **Music**
- **Technology Lab 2000**
- **Spanish**
- **Applied Practical Arts**

WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 50
1105 N. HUNT CLUB ROAD
GURNEE, IL 60031

Learning … to find solutions

Language Arts

Reading and Literature

- Recognize context clues and use prior knowledge
- Use dictionaries and glossaries to determine the meaning of unknown words
- Set purpose for reading, predict, apply prior knowledge, make inferences and personal connections, question, clarify and evaluate
- Identify and analyze any key elements of various literary genre including fiction, historical fiction, short stories, drama, and poetry
- Analyze, generalize, summarize, and synthesize informational text
- Interpret pictures, charts, and similar visual material within texts
- Recognize literacy devices including foreshadowing, flashback, metaphor, simile, personification and imagery
- Describe impact of overall literary elements on a piece of literature
- Identify ways an author conveys meaning, overall atmosphere and tone
- Compare and contrast common themes across culture and time
- Analyze and express personal connections to literary materials

Writing/Grammar

- Exhibit a range of writing techniques appropriate to purpose and audience
- Write with clarity of focus, logic of organization, and overall coherence
- Improve ideas through the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising/editing, and publishing/sharing
- Evaluate information for accuracy and relevance
- Organize information and ideas into narrative, persuasive, expository, poetic and other genres
- Use varied and grammatically correct sentences
- Support ideas and opinions with facts and details
- Use correct punctuation: end punctuation, commas, semicolons, colons, and quotation marks
- Cite resources according to standard style manuals
- Use available technology to produce writing for various audiences

Speaking/Listening

- Demonstrate ways that listening attentively can assist comprehension
- Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between verbal and non-verbal messages
- Deliver oral presentations which demonstrate organization, clarity, vocabulary, credibility, and accurate supporting evidence

Mathematics

Number Sense and Computation

- Demonstrate knowledge and use of numbers and their many representations in a broad range of theoretical and practical settings.
- Investigate, represent, and solve problems using number facts, operations and their properties, algorithms, and relationships.
- Compute and estimate using mental mathematics, paper-and-pencil methods, calculators, and computers.
- Solve problems using comparison of quantities, ratios, proportions, and percents.

Measurement

- Measure and compare quantities using appropriate units, instruments, and methods.
- Estimate measurements and determine acceptable levels of accuracy.
- Select and use appropriate technology, instruments, and formulas to solve problems, interpret results, and communicate findings.

Algebraic Thinking

- Describe numerical relationships using variables and patterns.
- Interpret and describe numerical relationships using tables, graphs, and symbols.
- Solve problems using systems of numbers and their properties.
- Use algebraic concepts and procedures to represent and solve problems.

Geometry

- Demonstrate and apply geometric concepts involving points, lines, planes, and space.
- Identify, describe, classify and compare relationships using points, lines, planes, and solids.
- Construct convincing arguments and proofs to solve problems.
- Use trigonometric ratios and circular functions to solve problems.

Data and Probability

- Organize, describe and make predictions from existing data.
- Formulate questions, design data collection methods, gather and analyze data, and communicate findings.
- Determine, describe and apply the probabilities of events.

Social Studies

Units

- Industry, Immigration and Reform
- Imperialism and War
- Turbulent Decades
- Turning Points
- Modern America

Geography

- Interpret historical, geographical and special purpose maps
- Analyze problems the settlers faced in the Southwest and Great Plains
- Analyze the factors that led to the Dust Bowl of the 1930s
- Evaluate geography's role in settlement, world politics and the world depression

History

- Explain the role of Carnegie, Morgan, and Rockefeller during industrialization of the US
- Explain role of FDR during the Depression and WWII
- Analyze the rise of fascism and communism during the 20th century
- Trace the developments and effects of the Holocaust
- Explain effects of industrialization on state and federal governments
- Relate the Industrial Revolution to increases in immigration and urbanization
- Describe US expansion into global politics by studying WWI, WWII, and the Cold War
- Describe the Civil Rights Movement and its impact

Government

- Explain responsibilities of city, township, county and Illinois State government
- Understand and interpret the Illinois State Constitution
- Evaluate the roles of the elected officials to the Illinois State government
- Predict how special interest groups influence Illinois government
- Explain how voting in National Elections affected Reconstruction
- Analyze a Supreme Court case: Dred Scott, Plessy v. Ferguson, etc.
- Investigate US foreign policy toward Central America in 1890s

Economics

- Describe the impact of supply and demand on agriculture and industry
- Explain the importance of capital for industry
- Analyze the Capitalist system in the US
- Evaluate the role of catalogs and department stores in increasing demand and consumption
- Explain how scarcity of money affected investment choices and corporations during and after the Great Depression
- Discuss how the OPEC embargo affected the US economy and other industrial nations in the 1970s

Social Systems

- Identify cultural and societal traits exchanged between different groups of people as a result of imperialism and war
- Describe what cultural clashes occurred in the United States in the 1920s
- Analyze the American Dream and how pop culture and rock 'n' roll affected society

Science

Event-based Science

In the unit "Fraud," students use scientific principles to verify authenticity or identify fraud. Students prepare a mask using fibers, metal, and black ink. Students learn to conduct experiments on chromatography of ink, resistance and density of metals, separation of mixtures, and pH of substances. The unit not only addresses the processes of scientific inquiry, but also the interaction between science and society.

Safety and Science Equipment

- Identify laboratory equipment.
- Use science equipment safely

Introduction to Matter

- Measure mass and volume accurately and compute density
- Give examples of matter's chemical and physical properties
- Explain what happens to matter during chemical and physical changes
- Identify four states of matter and their properties and describe how substances change from state to state
- Explain the relationship between change in temperature and particle motion
- Differentiate exothermic and endothermic changes of state
- Predict how a change in pressure or temperature will affect the volume of a gas
- Differentiate elements, compounds, and mixtures and metals, nonmetals, and metalloids
- Explain the atomic theory
- Compare the charge, location, and relative mass of protons, neutron, and electrons
- Calculate the number of particles in a neutral atom using the atomic number and mass number
- Explain periodicity of elements using the periodic table
- Define static electricity, potential difference, cells, and batteries
- Give examples of static electricity

Inside the Restless Earth

- Identify minerals and **c**lassify igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks
- Identify abrupt and gradual changes of Earth's surface and explain the principle of superposition
- Compare absolute and relative dating of rocks and fossils
- Identify the geologic time scale
- Demonstrate how fossils can be used to determine changes in environments
- Define tectonic plate and describe Wegener's theory of continental drift
- Explain how sea-floor spreading provides a way for continents to move
- Explain how plate movement causes earthquakes and volcanoes

The Evolution of Living Things:

- Explain how fossils provide evidence that organisms have changed over time
- Explain Darwin's work and the four steps of natural selection
- Describe how mutations are important for evolution

Electricity and Magnetism:

- Identify the law of electric charges
- Compare conductors and insulators
- Name the three essential parts of a circuit
- Compare series circuits with parallel circuits
- Use Ohm's law to calculate voltage, current, and resistance

Physical Education

Many skills for mastery in this grade are continuations of the complexity of skills learned in previous years.

- Demonstrate control when performing the following manipulative skills:
  - Softball-throwing, catching, striking
  - Basketball – sliding, jumping, dribbling, passing, shooting
  - Soccer – running, kicking, trapping
  - Volleyball – bumping, serving
- Identify offensive, defensive, and cooperative strategies in soccer, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, softball, and speedball.
- Demonstrate effective warm-up and cold down activities
- Demonstrate appropriate classroom behavior in games and activities
- Display appropriate cooperative and participatory behaviors
- Participate in fitness training and testing
- Set short and long term personal fitness goals using individual test data
- Evaluate fitness goal at end of the year
- Describe health benefits resulting in regular participation in fitness training
- Utilize Presidential fitness assessments

Health

- Identify dangers of specific drug use
- Identify five alternatives to harmful substances
- Define two types of eating disorders
- Recognize cause and effects of common diseases that affect the normal functioning of an individual
- Identify symptoms of infection in the body and recognize when a person should seek medical advice
- Identify factors that relate to prevention and transmission of STDs
- Recognize social and emotional changes that occur during adolescence
- Compare and contrast safe versus unsafe environments
- Generate a list of health related careers, then describe one of the chosen careers
- Identify safety precautions at public places
- Develop a sense of responsibility and cooperation within a group
- Identify ways to improve communication and problem solving
- Recognize characteristics of healthy relationships
- Distinguish the difference between peer pressure and peer support
- Explain implications of healthy/unhealthy choices related to sexual activity
- Identify diseases caused by air pollution and any environmental factor that affects the body
- Explain ways to reduce the risk of being affected by harmful environmental factors
- Develop a proposal to improve a health problem in the community

Art

- Form sculptures or pottery from clay
- Enhance sculptures and pottery using ceramic glaze or colorful tempera paint
- Create reproducible pictures on linoleum blocks using carving tools and printing ink
- Produce creative drawings, stained glass designs, calligraphy, and/or stitchery

Music

- Develop an appreciation and awareness of the various styles of jazz
- Study the elements and terminology of jazz
- Recognize jazz as an "American" style of music
- Study the origins of and the development of various jazz styles/schools
- Study the influence of one musical style upon another (e.g. blues on jazz)
- Develop a deeper appreciation and awareness of the various styles of popular American musical styles

Technology Lab 2000

- Assist sixth and seventh grade students in use of equipment, portfolio, design, and electronic portfolio
- Be introduced to technological terms
- Complete either one robotics or physical simulation
- Complete one multimedia project using PowerPoint, Hyperstudio, Photoshop or Video Production
- Complete a project using Microsoft Word 2000
- Learn about PowerPoint electronic portfolio development

Spanish

Students at the Middle School take Spanish as part of the exploratory cycle. In addition, students in grades 7 and 8 may elect to also take full-year Spanish with the intention of completing a full year of high school Spanish by the conclusion of Middle School.

Grammar/Vocabulary

Know and correctly use:

- Negation
- Dates and calendar expressions
- Verbs: "-er" and "–ir"
- Possessive adjectives
- Reflexive verbs
- The future tense using "ir" and the infinitive
- Know the difference between the verbs "ser" and "estar"
- Forms of "otro"

Speaking/Listening

- Talk about clothes, weather, the calendar and daily activities
- Describe a family, people, problems, moods and physical conditions
- Speak on the telephone
- Extend, accept, and decline an invitation
- Describe preparations for social events

Culture

Understand various components of culture:

- Getting together with friends
- Seasons in South America
- Clothing and food in Spanish speaking countries
- Privacy in Hispanic culture
- Common telephone expressions
- Getting around without a car
- Party invitations
- Common Andean dishes

Applied Practical Arts

- Measure using inches and fractions
- Know safety rules for power tools and hand tools
- Learn basic plumbing
- Know the names of power and hand tools
- Know electrical and woodshop safety
- Learn about basic household wiring
- Learn how to repair dry wall