

**North Little Rock Middle School
Sixth Grade Campus
Course Guide**



2022-2023

Changes to NLRMS - Sixth Grade Course Guide

Addition

Study Skills

Description: This course is designed to help students learn skills that will enhance their social and emotional learning, interpersonal skills, and academic skills.

Rationale

We believe that 6th Graders need a class on how to effectively learn skills that will help them socially, emotionally, and academically.

Protocol for Schedule Changes

Each student is registered individually and given ample opportunities to make his/her schedule choices. Students are expected to enroll in the classes they selected at that time. Schedule changes have serious effects both on each student's individual schedule and on the class size of the course into which he/she is transferring. Decisions about the number of sections per department are made in the spring based upon students' course selections during the registration process.

- 1. Schedule changes once students begin school, will be made only if there is a misplacement due to lack of prerequisite or background, or if there is a conflict in the master schedule that requires a schedule change.**
- 2. A student must be registered for eight (8) subjects each semester.**
- 3. Elective class changes cannot be made after school starts.**
- 4. Students enrolled in a full-year elective course will remain in that course for the full year.**
- 5. Teachers cannot be selected. Schedules will not be changed to accommodate lunch preferences.**
- 6. Changing from an Advanced class to a regular class will be considered at midterm of the 1st 9 weeks and at semester only, with the following requirements: Grade lower than 70 percent; A parent/teacher/student conference has been held to discuss what can be done for the student to be successful in the current class; Space is available; The change is initiated by the student.**
- 7. Students must always attend the classes on his/her schedule until receiving an official schedule from the counseling office.**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

Course Name:

English 6

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

English

Description: This is a course that engages students in a rigorous study of reading, writing, speaking and listening activities, by using Wit and Wisdom, to give them multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of their learning. Students will explore grammar, vocabulary, composition, and various types of literature.

Advanced English 6

Recommendations: A grade equivalent score of ready or exceeding on the ACT Aspire in English Language Arts (ELA). At the end of the 5th grade school year, students should be at a grade equivalent 6.0 or higher. An excellent work ethic is also needed to succeed in this class.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

English

Description: Advanced English 6 provides students with a deep analysis of grammar, vocabulary, composition, and the investigation of literature through class instruction, Wit and Wisdom, and multiple independent projects. Additional work may include independent novels, journals, essays, and presentations. Timely completion of all assignments, diligent effort and extensive time spent outside of class will be required. The middle school Advanced English classes are designed to prepare students for high school AP English courses and the AP English Literature and Composition exams.

Reading 6

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Reading

Description: This course focuses on equipping students with the skills needed to build independent reading, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension strategies. Reading 6 includes teacher directed small group instruction, independent reading, and individualized computer interventions. This course is designed to provide students with additional support through individualized instruction and targeted interventions.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Science

Course Name:

Science 6

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Science

Description: Science 6 is built on the core academic curriculum following the *Next Generation Science Standards* and are meant to reflect a new vision for science education. This sixth-grade science course assists students in becoming lifelong learners who grow in their understanding of the world. Students are introduced to various areas in science. Some topics are explored in depth while others are introduced to serve as building blocks for later coursework. As outlined by the standards and through the Summit Platform, this course engages students in a rigorous study of energy, cells/body systems, frog dissection, growth/ development, weather/climate, and human impact. Additional work may include journaling, investigations, and projects.

Advanced Science 6

Recommendations: At the end of the 5th grade school year, students should be at a grade equivalent 6.0 or higher and a grade equivalent score of ready or exceeding on the ACT Aspire in English Language Arts (ELA) and Science. An excellent work ethic is needed to succeed in this course.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Science

Description: Advanced Science 6 is built on the core academic curriculum following the *Next Generation Science Standards* and are meant to reflect a new vision for science education. Sixth grade science is an introduction to various areas of science. Some topics are explored in depth while others are introduced to serve as building blocks for later coursework. This course, through the Summit Platform, provides students with a deep analysis about energy, cells and body systems, frog dissection, growth/development, weather/climate, and human impact. Additional work may include journals, investigations, projects, research and presentations. This rigorous and accelerated course is designed for motivated science students who are preparing for Advanced Science courses in 7th grade.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Math

Course Name:

Math 6

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Math

Description: This course will build on the math learned in prior grades. Using the Summit Platform, Math 6 will cover the following Arkansas Mathematics Standards for grade 6: ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability.

Advanced Math 6

Recommendations: A grade equivalent score of ready or exceeding on the ACT Aspire in math and an excellent work ethic is needed to succeed in this class.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Math

Description: This is a rigorous fast-paced course that will require students to have a strong foundation in math. Students should expect to spend time outside of class gaining a deeper understanding of the concepts presented in class. Advanced Math 6 provides students with a course designed to prepare them for Advanced Math 7 and other rigorous advanced coursework in the future. By using the Summit Platform, this course will cover the following Grade 6 Arkansas Mathematics Standards: ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Social Studies

Course Name:

Social Studies 6

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Social Studies

Description: Social Studies 6 is built on the core academic curriculum following the Arkansas Academic Standards for Social Studies. Students in grade 6 will progressively study ancient world civilizations. Students will use and develop skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking through interpretation and analysis of maps, diagrams, charts, political cartoons, and primary source documents by using the Summit Platform. Curriculum areas of focus include: geography, citizenship/government, economics, and history of ancient civilizations.

Advanced Social Studies 6

Recommendations: Grade equivalent score of 6.0 or higher on Lexile levels at the end of fifth grade, ready or exceeding on the literacy part of the ACT Aspire. An excellent work ethic is also needed to succeed in this course.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Social Studies

Description: Advanced courses are academically advanced courses designed to challenge motivated students to understand rigorous content. Social Studies Advanced 6 is built on the core academic curriculum following the Arkansas Academic Standards for Social Studies. Students will progressively study ancient world civilizations. Students will use and develop skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking through interpretation and analysis of maps, diagrams, charts, political cartoons, and primary source documents by using the Summit Platform. Curriculum areas of focus include: geography, citizenship/government, economics, and history of ancient civilizations. Students enrolled in Advanced will receive more in depth classroom discussion, an increased amount of reading and writing, and technology use, and to complete a substantial amount of work outside of the classroom.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Physical Education/Health and Fitness

Course Name:

Physical Education/Health and Safety

Course Length

9 Weeks

Grade

6

Credit

PE

Description: Physical Education/Health is required for all students in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th. All skills throughout each semester will be taught, practiced, reinforced, and extended through using manipulative equipment, standard based, and traditional equipment. Health and fitness serves as an introduction to the overall health of the human body. The student will be introduced to the different body systems that make up personal health. These systems will be taught to determine how our overall health is affected by our surroundings. They will also receive instruction related to caring for the outer body through proper hygiene. Social health will be strongly reinforced throughout the semester. The overall goal of all health is to promote individuals that are socially, emotionally, and physically healthy for a lifetime.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Band

Course Name:

Beginning Band-6

Recommendations: Students must attend a spring band night and have band director's approval.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: Beginning Band is the first full year of music instruction on their instruments. Ownership or rental of instruments is encouraged. Beginning band class develops skills on a variety of woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Emphasis is given to providing a strong fundamental approach to their instrument. Rehearsal from the required music Text will be accomplished daily, as well as developmental music theory. Performance outside of normal school hours are required as part of this course. The book for beginners is Standard of Excellence Book 1.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Choir

Course Name:

Choir

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: This course focuses on singing activities and vocal production. It will allow students to develop the skills necessary for ensemble singing and reading music notation. It also provides opportunity for growth in the understanding of musical elements (rhythm, melody, harmony, and expressive elements) as applied to the music performed. This year long course includes school and evening performances as part of a grade.

General Music

Course Length

9 Weeks

Grade

6

Credit

Fine Art

Description: This course is for all sixth grade students to meet the Arkansas Frameworks in Music. Students will engage in activities that include listening, analyzing, studying music, etiquette, notation, and the study of music history and appreciation. It provides opportunity for growth in the understanding of musical elements (rhythm, melody, harmony, and expressive elements). Students in this class are not required to do a performance.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Visual Arts

Course Name:

Art 6

Course Length

9 weeks

Grade

6

Credit

Fine Art

Description: Art 6 is a one semester course that covers the Arkansas Visual Art Framework for sixth grade. This course will cover the foundations of art which includes elements of visual art and principles of design.

Advanced Art 6

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: Advanced Visual Art is a year-long course that covers the Arkansas Visual Art Framework for the appropriate grade level with more time for students who are advanced in art to engage in more in-depth learning experiences. The theme of each class will be specialized based on the expertise of the teacher and interest of the students.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Workforce and Specialty Courses

Course Name:

EAST Initiative Technology

Recommendations: Students should have a good understanding of basic computer skills. They must be capable of self-directing and self-teaching. Also, the students must be interested in problem solving.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: This course provides a problem based learning environment where the student must administer self-motivation, self-direction, and self-discipline. It requires students to collaborate with each other, with professionals in the community, and with school staff or administrators to become positive agents of change for their community and school. The students will be expected to participate in presentations as well as research for problems that they would like to resolve through projects.

EAST Initiative Farm

Recommendations: Students should have a good understanding of basic computer skills. They must be capable of self-directing and self-teaching. Also, the students must be interested in problem solving.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: This course provides a problem based learning environment where the student must administer self-motivation, self-direction, and self-discipline. It requires students to collaborate with each other, with professionals in the community, and with school staff or administrators to become positive agents of change. The students will be expected to participate in the daily work required around the farm. Students are involved in digging, planting, weeding, feeding chickens, and other tasks that need to be done to keep the farm maintained. Students will get muddy at times, and they are outside on 40 degree days and 100+ degree days.

Project Lead the Way Gateway Year 1- Design & Modeling/Robotics

Recommendations: Students should have a good understanding of basic computer skills. They must be capable of self-directing and self-teaching. Also, the students must be interested in problem solving.

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design and capture research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

Outdoor Adventure

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: This course is designed for students eager to learn about the outdoors! The course will explore topics like camping/backpacking, navigation, hunter's education, boater's education, fishing, archery, and much more. Outdoor Adventure gives students an opportunity to learn about things outside of the classroom and get hands-on experience with a variety of activities involving our environment and nature.

Study Skills

Course Length

9 Weeks

Grade

6

Credit

Elective

Description: This course is designed to help students learn skills that will enhance their social and emotional learning, interpersonal skills, and academic skills. Students will learn to work in cooperative learning groups and expose students to skills needed to aid in transitioning from 6th Grade to 7/8 Grade.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Special Programs

Course Name:

Self-Contained

Recommendations: Student must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Description: Self-contained classes meet the educational, social, and vocational needs of students with extremely limited academic skills.

Resource

Recommendations: Student must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Description: Resource classes emphasize practical application of skills and content for students who are not able to succeed in the regular classroom.

Inclusion

Recommendations: Students must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Course Length

1 Year

Grade

6

Description: Inclusion classes provide some direct specialized instruction and implementation of modifications by a special education teacher within the regular classroom.

Administration

Michael Clark—Principal

Amber Runsick—Assistant Principal

Stefanie Thompson - Assistant Principal

Counselor

Alicia Bailey—Counselor

Phone

501-771-8250—6th Grade Campus