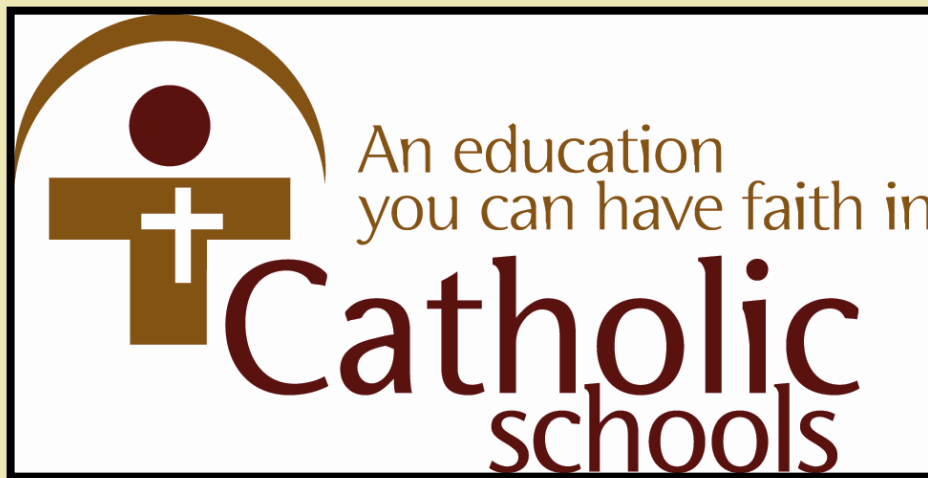


*Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Office for Schools*



Curriculum Guide

Grade 7

What is a Curriculum Guide?

Academic excellence is a hallmark of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. To assist schools in maintaining academic excellence, the archdiocese’s Office for Schools has developed curriculum guides for grades 4K-8th that identify what we want our students to know and be able to do at the end of each grade based on national, state, and local standards. With these guides as a template, each individual school develops a plan to clearly articulate what is taught, how it is taught, and how student achievement is assessed for each grade. This process of “fine tuning” results in a school specific standards-based curriculum that guides teaching and learning.

Characteristics of a 7th Grader

- ✓ Experiences great variation in physical, emotional, social and spiritual development
- ✓ Is impacted greatly by his/her changing body and newly acquired ability to think abstractly
- ✓ Struggles to express autonomy and may have difficulty distinguishing nuances of truth
- ✓ Thrives when allowed opportunities to experience the positive aspects of the new gifts of their mind and body
- ✓ Is challenged by being encouraged to think and engage in experiences which elicit deep compassion
- ✓ Benefits from journaling and meditation as positive sources for his/her introspective tendencies
- ✓ Develops most fully when provided experiences that will accommodate the wide variations in maturation
- ✓ Demonstrates a need for fairness and justice
- ✓ Experiences affirming and positive relationships with persons of both genders
- ✓ Continues to develop autonomy within the context of family

RELIGION

Creedal Church:

- Recognizes that faith is our response to God who gives Himself to us
- Recognizes Jesus Christ as the greatest of God's gifts to us
- Knows that God revealed Himself gradually in words and actions
- Knows the Church's description of the Trinity as God in three divine persons
- Describes the major traditions of our roots as Catholic Christians, e.g., marks of the Church, Church hierarchy, lay leadership, ecumenism
- Explains how "Catholic" means global, universal
- Knows the role of Mary, the apostles, saints and holy people in our faith traditions
- Identifies one's self as being a unique creation made in God's image
- Recognizes that we are called to cooperate freely with God's plan
- Knows that Mary remained free from sin her whole life from conception to death
- Knows that Christ is the heavenly high priest always interceding for us
- Knows that at the end of time we will rise with our glorified bodies
 - Uses stories from Scripture that describe the person and ministry of Jesus Christ: Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17); Jesus Calls the Fishermen (Mark 1: 16-20, Matthew 9:9-13); the teachings of Jesus (Matthew 5-7, Matthew 25:31-46, John 3:16, John. 13-17); The Good Shepherd (John 10:1-10)
 - Recognizes major periods in the Bible and in the history of the Catholic Church
 - Explains the relationship between the Old and New Testament

Liturgy/Sacrament:

- Knows that liturgy is the work of Christ through his Church
- Names the sacraments of the Church and associates them with life experiences, e.g., family meals and Eucharist, forgiveness and Reconciliation, commitment Matrimony/Holy Orders/Confirmation
- Grows in understanding the many facets of the sacramental life of the Church
- Participates regularly in Sunday Eucharist
- Participates regularly in Sunday Eucharist
- Recognizes and understands the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist
- Participates in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Articulates the cycles of the Liturgical Year, including special feasts
- Identifies the ritual nature of life and associates it with the ritual of the Church, e.g., seasons of nature and the seasons of the Church Year
- Recognizes sacraments as effective signs of grace given by Christ and entrusted to the Church
 - Identifies sacramental actions in Scripture: Rebirth (John 3:1-18); Commitment (Acts 2:1-13); Ritual Meal (Matthew 26:20-29, Mark 4:17-25, Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Mark 6:34-44); Forgiveness (John 20:22-23); Healing (James 5:13-15, Luke 5:17-25); Ministry (Matthew 28:18-20); Marriage (Genesis 2:21-25, Mark 10:6-9)

Moral Life:

- Describes experiences of conscience which signal what is right and wrong: a moral compass which guides us toward the Kingdom of God
- Identifies personal and moral choices as expressions of a Catholic moral life
- Associates social, economic and political choices with Christian morality
- Recognizes that some sins are collective and social-the wrongful acts of a group
- Integrates the skills of justice and peacemaking into actions
- Knows the value and the good acts of sacrifice, penance and self denial as part of Christian discipleship
 - Recognizes that the values of our Catholic faith are contrary to the message in some contemporary music and media
 - Names and describes the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as guidelines for living a happy life and applies them to daily life (Matthew 5:3-12, Matthew 25:31-46, John 13:1-20)

- Associates Jesus as a model of how we are to behave toward others (Luke 8:1-3, Luke 10:38-45, Matthew 19:13-15, John 13:12-16, John 13:34-35, John 15:8-10)
- Connects Scripture to life issues: Rich Young Man (Matthew 19:16-24)
- Recognizes that God’s plan calls us to refrain from sexual activity outside of marriage
- Recognizes that there are many sinful uses of sexuality in society
- Knows that substance abuse has many deadly effects on mind and body
- Practices the virtues of chastity, tolerance, understanding, prudence and self-acceptance
- Can define bullying and harassment and recognizes it when it occurs
- Knows how to use conflict management skills
- Can define and discuss the meaning of sexual harassment and sexual abuse

Christian Prayer

- Experiences a relationship with God in individual prayer, including meditation and spontaneous prayer
- Recognizes and experiences belonging to a community which prays with and for each other
- Recognizes that prayer is rooted in hope and is a “surge of the heart” toward God
- Knows that the Lord’s Prayer summarizes the Gospel and prays it often
- Prays the Jesus Prayer “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner”
- Grows in the knowledge of God’s loving Presence through retreat experiences
- Knows and prays all prayers memorized through the grade levels such as the Glory to the Father (Doxology), the Lord’s Prayer, Hail Mary, Apostles Creed, the Act of Contrition, the Rosary
- Uses Scripture as a source of prayer
- Recognizes and uses music as a form of prayer

LANGUAGE ARTS

Communicates orally:

- Participate in conversations of interest to self and others
- Speak with or without notes or an outline while relating an experience in descriptive detail
- Perform expressive oral readings of prose, poetry, and drama
- Conduct an interview using a logical questioning format
- Present a coherent report, with differing viewpoints, while organizing in a manner appropriate to the audience
- Adjust language, gestures, rate, and volume according to audience and purpose
- Display the appropriate etiquette and Christian values when expressing thanks and receiving praise
- Apply appropriate listening etiquette (nonverbal and verbal) in various settings and respond respectfully
- Support opinions orally by citing evidence or source
- Evaluate the ideas and opinions of others, seeking clarification through questioning
- Invite ideas and opinions of others into the discussion, responding tactfully to comments
- Accept and use constructive criticism
- Decipher among ideas of others (facts from opinion)
- Summarize information from a discussion specifying areas of agreement and disagreement
- Display appropriate non-verbal responses that indicate respect for the speaker and attention to the discussion
- Ask pertinent questions of the speaker and retell key points of content of discussion
- Participate in discussions by responding responsibly and respectfully to the remarks of others without dominating
- Distinguish between supported and unsupported statements

Listens to and comprehends oral language:

- Summarize information conveyed in an oral communication, accounting for the key ideas, structure and relationship of parts to the whole
- Evaluate purposes for listening, such as gaining information or being entertained, and take notes as appropriate
- Apply and interpret oral directions in order to complete a task
- Summarize a speaker's main idea
- Analyze the reliability of information using criteria provided for analysis of logic, evidence, propaganda devices, and language
- Describe how American English is used in various public and private contexts
- Employ an appropriate style of speaking for a formal context
- Vary language choices as appropriate to the context and audience

Writes for various purposes:

- Research and provide evidence using details, appropriate language, organization, and cited sources in an expository essay about a defined topic
- Define a problem and solution in a written proposal (i.e. letter, script, essay) which is supported by reliable evidence
- Compose multi-paragraph narratives which contain: descriptive language, sequencing, important details, and dialog from personal contexts
- Justify a response to verbal, visual, and written material/experiences
- Compose a fictional piece of writing including a coherent plot, developed characters, dialogue, and descriptive language
- Develop evidence to support content in a technical writing piece
- Identify adaptations related to: content, style, and structure, in a written piece, for various audiences (peers/adults) and contexts
- Develop open-ended questions to guide research
- Distinguish among multiple sources for reference
- Gather information using multiple means of social interaction (i.e. interview, field studies, small/large group tasks, survey, etc.)
- Compile, organize, and take notes to record and summarize what has been learned
- Review and evaluate the usefulness of information gathered in an investigation
- Produce an organized written and oral report that presents and reflects on findings, draws sound conclusions, adheres to the conventions for preparing a manuscript, and gives proper credit to sources

Plans, drafts, revises, edits and publishes:

- Edit and revise writing using various techniques
- Compose and organize a composition which includes: a clear thesis, supporting and concluding paragraphs
- Identify questions and strategies for improving drafts in writing conferences with a teacher
- Produce a well developed, organized, and effective response in an appropriate voice

Applies grammar and spelling skills:

- Write using a variety of writing modalities
- Apply the rules of parts of speech in order to convey meaning
- Maintain consistency of tenses throughout written work
- Integrate agreement principles (i.e. subject-verb, pronoun-antecedent) throughout various lengths of written work
- Apply the advanced rules of mechanics to complex sentences, interrupted dialogue, and other advanced mechanics such as parentheses, dashes, ellipses, and colons
- Employ the conventions of capitalization including in complex written dialog accurately (i.e. interrupted dialog, etc.)
- Utilize spelling strategies to spell unfamiliar words
- Spell frequently used words correctly
- Utilize resources when choosing words, phrases, and expressions for use in oral and written presentations
- Use figurative language in writing
- Choose words that inform, explain, and persuade for writing

Communicates using information media and technology:

- Construct and use simple databases
- Utilize various search tools to identify and locate information pertinent to research
- Identify and explain the use of stereotypes and biases evident in various media
- Compare the effect of particular symbols and images seen in various media
- Identify a target audience and write an informational article
- Use desktop publishing to produce products designed for particular purposes
- Create media pieces designed for particular audiences
- Plan a promotion or campaign that involves broadcast and print media production and distribution
- Analyze how messages may be affected by financial factors such as sponsorship
- Identify advertising strategies and techniques aimed at teenagers
- Analyze and edit media work based on Catholic values

READING

Uses word recognition strategies effectively:

- Demonstrate understanding of word recognition strategies (context clues, word origins, and decoding) through pronunciation and clarification of text passages

Uses effective reading strategies to comprehend material:

- Read with fluency, accuracy, and expression from a variety of genres
- Exhibit comprehension through self-monitoring, questioning, visualizing, predicting, and making inferences
- Interpret literary elements and defining features of multiple works of literature
- Evaluate accuracy and usefulness of information from various resources
- Understand structure of expository materials including main idea and text patterns

Reads, interprets, and critically analyzes literature:

- Summarize, synthesize, and form opinions
- Analyze theme, concepts, and literary elements found in various forms of literature
- Use contextual evidence to support conclusions
- Distinguish among different genres
- Choose, discuss, and analyze a variety of genres at an appropriate reading level
- Demonstrate a knowledge of Catholic teachings when interpreting the meaning of various literary works
- Evaluate literary merit informally and formally using criteria provided
- Evaluate moral issues within a literary work
- Provide interpretive responses relating to diversity, American cultural heritage, and world cultures
- Interpret themes, ideas, and insights found in classical literature
- Apply the teachings of the Catholic Church to issues/themes found in various literary works
- Evaluate texts for specific purposes and audiences
- Infer using text resources such as charts, tables, pictures, glossaries, indices, appendices, etc.
- Analyze appropriate materials for research
- Acquire information about Catholic Social Teachings through religious, catechetical, and spiritual texts

Reads to acquire information:

- Identify purpose for reading using various genres (fiction and nonfiction)
- Demonstrate understanding of human life experiences through interpretation of literary and non-literary texts, historical, social, and cultural themes and issues

MATH

Number Operations and Relationships:

- Identify decimals to millionths
- Read and represent decimals in expanded form
- Use exponential notation to solve problems
- Develop and use order relationships for whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents
- Convert between fractions, decimals, and percents
- Use divisibility rules to find GCF, LCM, and prime numbers
- Identify prime and composite numbers to 100
- Add and subtract integers
- Multiply and divide integers
- Understand and apply four operations to whole numbers, fractions, and decimals
- Extend and apply estimation skills to all operations involving whole numbers, fractions, and decimals
- Extend and apply mental math skills to all operations involving whole numbers, fractions, and decimals

Probability and Statistics:

- Analyze tables, graphs, and charts
- Create tables and graphs
- Construct circle graphs
- Determine the likelihood of occurrence of simple events using a variety of strategies (experimentation, simulation,

and theoretical)

- Create and interpret box and whisker plots

Measurement:

- Estimate an area given a reference
- Measure and draw angles up to 180 degrees
- Determine actual distance between two points using a scale
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide measurements where conversions of like measure may be required

Geometry:

- Classify figures as plane or solid
- Identify symmetry of geometric figures
- Apply proportions in relation to congruent figures
- Apply proportions in relation to similar figures
- Describe and represent adjacent, supplementary, complementary, vertical, and congruent angles
- Describe and construct lines in a plane as transversal lines
- Identify transformations as reflections, translations, and rotations

Algebraic Relationships:

- Generalize arithmetic and geometric patterns in simple algebraic expressions
- Write multi-step number sentences to solve word problems
- Apply ratios/percents to problem solving
- Evaluate multi-step variable expressions
- Understand concepts of expression, equation, and variable
- Solve equations and inequalities using order of operations
- Plot ordered pairs in all four quadrants
- Use whole number exponents and powers
- Understand concepts of ratio and percent
- Recognize generalized properties (commutative, associative, distributive, etc.)
- Convert large numbers using scientific notation

SOCIAL STUDIES

ECONOMICS

Production/Consumption/Distribution:

- Describe how personal economic decisions impact global economy (e.g., starting new business initiatives, boycotts, and earning power of workers)
- Analyze the impact of personal decisions on global issues (e.g., trade agreements, recycling, and conserving the environment)
- Determine the location of natural resources and explain how they generate trade and economic patterns
- Describe effects of investments in infrastructure (e.g., education, health care, public safety, transportation, etc.) on the economy
- Identify and explain various points of view concerning economic issues (e.g., taxation, unemployment, inflation, the national debt, and distribution of income)
- Compare the standard of living in various societies

Exchange:

- Interpret and explain the development of money in history
- Differentiate among the various economic & political systems (e.g., feudalism, capitalism, communism, etc.)
- Distinguish and explain basic economic concepts (e.g., supply and demand; production, exchange, and consumption; labor, wages, and capital; inflation and deflation; public and private goods and services; market economy and command economy)
- Identify the economic roles of institutions (e.g., corporations and businesses, banks, labor unions, and the Federal Reserve System)

HISTORY

Time:

- Interpret the past using a variety of primary and secondary sources
- Compare ancient and present-day communities around the World
- Analyze the cause and effect relationship of different events over time

People:

- Identify and describe significant people in the major eras in the United States and World History
- Examine the impact of immigration on the United States and World History
- Summarize major issues associated with the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the indigenous peoples of Americas
- Research the political values of freedom, democracy, equality, & justice as embodied in important documents (e.g. the Magna Carta, Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights)
- Organize and analyze information to place people in historical perspective

Events:

- Analyze significant events and the major eras of the United States and the World (See Appendix)
- Describe the relationship between and among significant events in the United States and World History
- Critically analyze current events in the United States and the World
- Explain the interpretation of historical events according to various viewpoints
- Identify major scientific discoveries and technological innovations and describe their social and economic effects on society
- Explain the need for laws and policies to regulate science and technology

GEOGRAPHY

Location:

- Identify past & present countries in the World
- Explain relative and absolute location of places using appropriate geographic terminology
- Locate and identify physical features in the World

Map Skills:

- Use maps, charts, and graphs to display and compare information
- Use an atlas to estimate distance, calculate scale, identify dominant patterns of climate and land use, and compute population density
- Construct mental maps of selected locales, regions, states, and countries and draw maps from memory, representing relative location, direction, size, and shape
- Create different types of maps (e.g., political, physical, and thematic)

Regions:

- Identify past & present World regions
- Identify United States regions throughout history

Place:

- Identify components of culture (e.g., religion, art, language, customs, and cuisine)
- Understand the different characteristics of climate, landforms, bodies of water, cities, governments, and other characteristics of place

Human Environment Interaction:

- Describe and analyze ways in which people interact with, modify and adapt with the environment
- Research the causes and consequences of global issues (e.g., urbanization, extinction of species, consumption of natural resources, and World events)
- Identify changing boundaries and major land acquisitions of the United States

Movement:

- Explain the movement of people, ideas, products, and diseases in the World
- Evaluate the impact of science and technology on the United States and the World

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Citizenship:

- Demonstrate ways in which a citizen may participate in public policy debates
- Identify individual responsibilities to local, state, national and global communities
- Explain the role and impact of civil actions
- Locate, organize, and use relevant information to understand issues

Laws:

- Explain how laws are developed, changed, and enforced
- Analyze and discuss important political documents (e.g., the Magna Carta, Constitution, Bill of Rights, and landmark decisions of the Supreme Court)

Government:

- Explain the role of political parties and interest groups in American politics
- Identify and explain the different forms of government, including the basic principles of democracy
- Explain how legislative, executive, and judicial powers are separated and balanced at the federal level
- Describe and explain how the federal system separates the powers of federal, state, and local government
- Distinguish how the powers of government are acquired, maintained, justified, and sometimes abused
- Describe the role and effects of international organizations and political alliances throughout the World
- Analyze how various groups of people and cultures govern themselves

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Individual:

- Describe and explain how various factors influence individual identity

Institution:

- Describe cooperation and interdependence among groups, societies, and nations
- Demonstrate knowledge of the World's religions

Society:

- Compare and contrast the components of various region's culture
- Explain impact of World events globally
- Describe the reflection of cultural values and ideas in art and architecture
- Describe cultural contributions of racial and ethnics groups in the United States and the World
- Identify examples of bias and stereotyping and how they contribute to conflict
- Analyze cultural conflicts in Unites States History
- Give examples of media influence on behavior and decision-making of individuals and groups

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

Life and Dignity of the Human Person:

- Analyzes social issues based on whether human dignity is valued or harmed
- Identifies elements of human dignity based on Catholic Social Teaching
- Acts to transform human dignity
- Uses conflict resolution skills
- Identifies abuses of human dignity found in American Society
- Identifies Biblical passages related to human dignity

The Call to Family, Community, and Participation:

- Models responsible behavior to family and community through service
- Is involved in service projects beyond the local community
- Uses the church's social teachings as a lens to look at the moral and human dimensions of public issues

The Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person:

- Articulates the component parts of human dignity
- Identifies actions that would be considered abuses of human rights (local, national, international)
- Practices peaceful conflict resolution strategies within the family, school, and community
- Researches social data and church teaching as a way to begin to transform injustice

Option for the Poor and the Vulnerable:

- Shares personal resources to help the poor and vulnerable
- Can discuss laws and policies that can benefit the poor and vulnerable members of society
- Practices behaviors that help others
- Can articulate the causes of poverty and the systems which prevent people from overcoming poverty
- Does research on the 20th and the 21st century people who have fought for justice, e.g. Archbishop Romero, Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King
- Clearly articulates the difference between justice and charity

Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers:

- Can discuss the role work can play as a contribution to self and society
- Can articulate the importance of intrinsic values
- Demonstrates putting forth the best effort in school, recreation, and work
- Demonstrates respect for the basic rights and responsibilities at school and neighborhood
- Gives examples of the basic rights and responsibilities of workers in at least three different job areas

Solidarity of the Human Family:

- Models attitudes and behaviors that accept and value differences (racial, ethnic, economic, etc.)
- Displays an awareness of responsibility to others throughout the world
- Demonstrates the polices, and behaviors that support a peaceful world

Care for God's Creation:

- Displays individual and group actions to protect and preserve the environment
- Takes an active role in programs and laws that support and help all forms of life

SCIENCE

EARTH SCIENCE

Weather:

- Explain how heat, moisture, and air movement determine weather
- Understand that the Sun's energy drives the water cycle and that the water cycle is a continuous process of recycling
- Demonstrate wind flow from high pressure areas to low pressure areas
- Analyze how temperature, pressure, and the Coriolis Effect cause wind and water currents
- Describe how global atmospheric movement influences local weather
- Examine how geographic features affect climates
- Know the composition and structure of the Earth's atmosphere
- Investigate how the greenhouse effect leads to global warming
- Explain standard safety procedures used regarding various natural disasters
- Explain how the tilt of the earth determines seasons and length of day

Space:

- Understand how the force of gravity keeps the planets and other bodies in orbit
- State Newton's Laws of Gravitation
- Explain orbital motion of objects in the solar system
- Understand that stars give off light and produce energy by nuclear fusion
- Realize that light years and astronomical units are used to measure distance in space
- Understand how humans use technology to explore space
- Know what characteristics of a planet support life
- Know that billions of galaxies exist in the universe

Earth's Structure/Composition:

- Know the components of soil and other factors that influence soil texture, fertility, and resistance to erosion
- Communicate that the Earth is comprised of layers including a core, mantle, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere
- Identify the characteristics of sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks and know the formation process
- Know the interrelationship involved in the process of the rock cycle
- Know that the fossils contained in the successive layers of rock can be used to confirm the age, history, and changing life forms of the Earth

Changes in the Earth:

- Know that successive layers of sedimentary rock are affected by folding, breaking, and uplifting of layers
- Know that land forms are created through constructive and destructive forces
- Know that the Earth's crust is divided into plates that move in response to mantle movement

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Sound and Light:

- Demonstrate that light travels in straight lines unless reflected or refracted
- Identify visible light as one component of the electromagnetic spectrum
- Demonstrate that light interacts with matter by transmission, absorption, or reflection
- Demonstrate that light can be reflected with mirrors or refracted with lenses
- Explain how the Sun is the major source of energy for the Earth
- Demonstrate that light is essential for vision
- Demonstrate how things that absorb light often transmit heat
- Identify and explain that photosynthesis is the process of using light to make food
- Observe and demonstrate that sound is affected by the matter through which it travels
- Describe how sound travels in waves
- Explain that sound waves have wave length, frequency, and amplitude
- Demonstrate how the ear is a receptor for sound

Matter:

- Know the major ideas of atomic theory and molecular theory
- Know the history and development of the present atomic model
- Model how all matter is composed of atoms, consisting of protons, neutrons, and electrons
- Describe physical and chemical interactions among substances
- Develop an understanding of the physical and chemical properties of matter
- Realize that particles of matter are in constant motion, and when heated, the motion of the molecules increases and they move farther apart
- Understand the flow of electrons in bonding
- Understand how each element is represented on the Periodic Table
- Know the organization of the Periodic Table
- Know the materials that contain equal numbers of positive and negative charges are electrically neutral
- Realize that any change in the balance of charges produces an electric force proportional to the charge
- Know that electromagnetic forces exist with and between atoms

Forces, Motion, and Energy:

- Investigate the motion of objects and explain motion in terms of speed, velocity, acceleration, momentum, and Newton's Laws of Motion and their application to real-life situations
- Identify the Law of Conservation of Energy
- Explain how gravitational force is applied
- Explain that nuclear forces are stronger than electromagnetic forces, which are stronger than gravitational forces
- Demonstrate how machines can be used to do work more efficiently
- Investigate how work can be measured
- Identify how devices have been designed to convert energy from one form to another
- Give a basic explanation of the gas laws, Archimedes Principle, and Bernoulli's Principle and recognize their real-life applications
- Describe and investigate the properties of light, heat, gravity, magnetic fields, electrical fields and sound waves and their interactions with common objects
- Infer that as energy transformations occur, some energy escapes as heat, sound, or light
- Be aware of decisions about the future of energy resources

Electricity and Magnetism:

- Explain that electric currents can produce magnetic forces and magnets can produce electric currents
- Explain the relationship between magnetic forces and electric forces
- Identify the role of electromagnetic forces in electric motors, generators, radio, television, and other technologies
- Observe that different materials act as insulators and conductors of electrical current

LIFE SCIENCE**Animals:**

- Classifications
 - Identify different taxonomic groups of the Animal Kingdom
- Cycles
 - Know that sexual reproduction results in the continuation of the species
 - Describe the basic life processes that all animals carry out.
- Characteristics
 - *Know that animals have a variety of body structures with specific functions for survival*

Plants:

- Characteristics
 - Describe the chemical process of photosynthesis
- Life Cycles
 - Discover that plants carry on basic life processes
 - Understand that sexual and asexual reproduction are necessary for the continuation to the species

- Classification
 - Compare and contrast monocots and dicots
 - Identify various plant tissues and explain their function
 - Describe how plants are producers
- Adaptations
 - Know that plants have a variety of body structures with specific functions for survival
 - Explain plant responses to environmental stimuli

Environment:

- Habitats
 - Understand that through the process of succession, communities change over time
 - Describe the eight biomes in terms of their distinct biotic and abiotic characteristics
- Adaptations
 - Recognize how things evolve
 - Know the process of natural selection
 - Know the history of the Theory of Evolution

Human Body:

- Explain that a human being has interactive systems
- Know that humans carry on basic life processes
- Describe how disease is caused by internal and external factors
- Understand homeostasis
- Describe the stages of development of a growing embryo and fetus

Cells, Heredity and Classification:

- Realize that both heredity and the environment contribute to the development of living things
- Know that organisms are classified based on similarities that reflect their evolutionary relationships
- Identify the levels of organization in living things: cells, tissues, organs, systems, and organisms
- Know the structure and function of the different parts of a cell
- Describe how chromosomes are contained in both egg and sperm and carry instructions for the new individual
- Model how an inherited trait is determined by one or more genes using a Punnet Square
- Know the chemical and structural properties of DNA and its role in specifying the characteristics of an organism within an organism