



LACS MIDDLE SCHOOL

ACADEMIC GOALS

&

OBJECTIVES

Los Altos Christian Schools offers curriculum which is based on a Christian perspective of education. We feel it is important to integrate scriptural principles and biblical threads into each area of subject matter. We continually research a variety of curriculums and have selected materials that will offer your child a high-quality academic education, centered on the principles of God's Word.

SIGN LANGUAGE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: To introduce students to the fundamental of ASL

Objectives:

1. Identify fundamentals of basic ASL: alphabet, numbers, proper greetings
2. Learn introductory signs that allow for greeting others, identifying family members, asking questions etc.

Goal 2: To communicate both physically as well as with vocabulary

Objectives:

1. Develop the ability to form signs with their hands
2. Understand the effects that facial expression and body language have on the meaning of the signs being relayed
3. Converse with each other and gather information about each other, utilizing learned words, phrases, and ability to ask questions via sign

Goal 3: To learn both signing and translating skills

Objectives:

1. Use basic vocabulary to converse
2. Practice translating skills with classmates
3. Learn signs for common themes of discussion: school vocabulary, colors, shapes, time, animals, food, sports
4. Interpret ASL format to proper English and English format to proper ASL

Goal 4: To gain and understanding and appreciation of deaf culture

Objectives:

1. Learn the history of ASL
2. Learn elements of deaf culture
3. Compare and contrast deaf culture with hearing culture

SPANISH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Communicate in Languages Other than English

Objectives:

1. Students engage in conversation, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
2. Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
3. Students present information, concepts and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

Goal 2: Gain Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures

Objectives:

1. Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.
2. Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

Goal 3: Connect with Other Disciplines and Acquire Information

Objectives:

1. Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.
2. Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures.

Goal 4: Gain Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

Objectives:

1. Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own.
2. Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Goal 5: Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home and Around the World

Objectives:

1. Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting.
2. Students show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

6TH GRADE

BIBLE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: To understand that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is living and active in our lives

Objectives:

1. See that the Bible is the inspired Word of God
2. Explain the uniqueness of the Bible in its time span, authorship, literary genres, and unity
3. Identify the difference between the Bible, the Written Word and Jesus, the Living Word
4. State the purposes for studying God's Word
5. Understand that God's Word should guide our lives
6. See an example of a leader who humbled himself before God and obeyed His Word
7. Recognize the role of the Holy Spirit to illumine God's Word

Goal 2: To understand Jesus' purpose, miracles, and teachings

Objectives:

1. Understand the purpose of the Passover Lamb
2. Recognize that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
3. Understand how Jesus fulfills Old Testament prophecies
4. Identify and categorize Jesus' miracles that show His power over death, demons, disease and nature
5. Understand the life that Jesus led and calls His followers to lead
6. Understand the beatitudes and how to apply them to our lives
7. Comprehend that the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ was part of God's plan of redemption
8. Understand that Jesus' victory over sin and death is the source of our hope and victory

Goal 3: To understand God's design and purpose for our lives

Objectives:

1. Recognize that God designed each person uniquely for a specific purpose
2. Understand that God's way is perfect and He has plans to prosper and not to harm us
3. Explain how God created Gideon for a special purpose of delivering the Israelites
4. Understand that God's ultimate purpose is that we glorify Him
5. Realize that God is in the process of conforming us into the image of Jesus Christ

Goal 4: To understand being directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Objectives:

1. Know who the Holy Spirit is
2. Know that the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us when we receive Christ
3. Understand what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit
4. Be able to identify and recognize the fruit of the Spirit
5. See that Mary was an example of a person who surrendered her life to God
6. Understand that the Holy Spirit enables us to glorify God and fulfill His purpose for our lives

6TH GRADE

BIBLE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 5: To understand temptation, sin, confession and experiencing God's forgiveness.

Objectives:

1. Identify what sin is
2. Recognize that sin grieves the Holy Spirit
3. Identify the ways that Satan tempts us to sin and how we can overcome temptation
4. Understand how Christ overcame Satan's temptations
5. Know that God is more powerful than Satan
6. Understand that confession of sin is a necessity for a Spirit-filled life
7. Realize that God is faithful and will forgive us for all our sins

Goal 6: To comprehend the need to obey God in all that we do

Objectives:

1. Comprehend what it means to be following God's will
2. Understand that it is essential that we live in obedience to God
3. Identify ways that we can fall away from God
4. Realize the importance of honoring and obeying their parents
5. See an example of obedience in Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac
6. Commit to being an example of Christ with your peers by having the courage to do the right thing
7. Develop the conviction to stand strong for God without compromise

6TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Reading

Goal 1: To select and read appropriate grade-level material independently

Objectives:

1. Select at least 2 books written at grade-level or student's reading level to read over the summer
2. Review and summarize one of the books
3. Choose additional, optional activities, if desired.

Goal 2: To read and understand grade-level-appropriate material from various genres

Objectives:

1. Determine a theme or central idea of a text
2. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text
3. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text
4. Determine figurative meanings
5. Cultivate understanding of setting, plot, conflict, and theme
6. Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text

Goal 3: To read and respond to historically or culturally significant works of literature that reflect and enhance their studies of history and social science.

Objectives:

1. Explain the effects of common literary devices in a variety of fictional and nonfictional texts
2. Critique the credibility of characterization and the degree to which a plot is contrived or realistic
3. Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words
4. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational text independently and proficiently

Writing

Goal 1: To write clear, coherent, and focused essays.

Objectives:

1. Choose the form of writing that best suits the intended purpose.
2. Create multiple-paragraph expository compositions:
 - a. Engage the interest of the reader and state a clear purpose
 - b. Develop the topic with supporting details and precise verbs, nouns, and adjectives to paint a visual image in the mind of the reader
 - c. Conclude with a detailed summary linked to the purpose of the composition

6TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

3. Use a variety of effective and coherent organizational patterns, including comparison and contrast; organization by categories; and arrangement by spatial order, order of importance, or climactic order
4. Revise writing to improve the organization and consistency of ideas within and between paragraphs

Goal 2: To write narrative, expository, persuasive, and descriptive texts of at least 500 to 700 words in each genre.

Objectives:

1. To write narratives:
 - a. Establish and develop a plot and setting and present a point of view that is appropriate to the stories
 - b. Include sensory details and concrete language to develop plot and character
 - c. Use a range of narrative devices
2. To write expository compositions:
 - a. State the thesis or purpose
 - b. Explain the situation
 - c. Follow an organizational pattern appropriate to the type of composition
 - d. Offer persuasive evidence to validate arguments and conclusions as needed
3. To write research reports:
 - a. Pose relevant questions with a scope narrow enough to be thoroughly covered
 - b. Support the main idea or ideas with facts, details, examples, and explanations from multiple authoritative sources
 - c. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others
 - d. Cite sources appropriately in a bibliography
4. To write responses to literature:
 - a. Develop an interpretation exhibiting careful reading, understanding, and insight
 - b. Organize the interpretation around several clear ideas, premises, or images
 - c. Develop and justify the interpretation through sustained use of examples and textual evidence

Language

Goal 1: To write with a command of Standard English conventions appropriate to this grade level.

Objectives:

1. Use simple, compound, and compound-complex sentences; use effective coordination and subordination of ideas to express complete thoughts
2. Identify and properly use indefinite pronouns and present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect verb tenses; ensure that verbs agree with compound subjects
3. Use punctuation correctly and use correct capitalization

6TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Listening and Speaking Skills

Goal 1: To deliver focused coherent presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background and interests of the audience.

Objectives:

1. Relate the speaker's verbal communication to the nonverbal message (e.g., posture, gesture)
2. Identify the tone, mood, and emotion conveyed in the oral communication.
3. Restate and execute multiple-step oral instructions and directions
4. Select a focus, an organizational structure, and a point of view, matching the purpose, message, occasion, and vocal modulation to the audience
5. Emphasize salient points to assist the listener in following the main ideas and concepts
6. Support opinions with detailed evidence and with visual or media displays that use appropriate technology
7. Use effective rate, volume, pitch, and tone and align nonverbal elements to sustain audience interest and attention
8. Analyze the use of rhetorical devices for intent and effect
9. Identify persuasive and propaganda techniques used in television and identify false and misleading information

Goal 2: To deliver well-organized formal presentations employing traditional rhetorical strategies.

Objectives:

1. To deliver narrative presentations:
 - a. Establish a context, plot, and point of view
 - b. Include sensory details and concrete language to develop the plot and character
 - c. Use a range of narrative devices
2. To deliver informative presentations:
 - a. Develop the topic with facts, details, examples, and explanations from multiple authoritative sources
 - b. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence so that listeners can follow the line of reasoning
 - c. Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding

6TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Math 6

Goal 1: To use knowledge of numbers and order of operations to solve equations

Objectives:

1. Use mental math and estimation strategies
2. Compare and order integers and apply the 4 basic operations to integers
3. Measure tendency and range
4. Write and solve one-step equations
5. Evaluate algebraic expressions

Goal 2: To extend understanding of the order of operations to include exponents, factors, and fractions

Objectives:

1. Simplify fractions, compare and order fractions as mixed numbers, and express fractions as decimals
2. Build on fraction concepts to estimate and compute with fractions and mixed numbers
3. Change units with customary measurement systems
4. Use ratios, solve proportions, and find values of similar figures, as well as map and scale models

Goal 3: To work with concepts in geometry

Objectives:

1. Work with plane geometry concepts
2. Learn about the properties of lines and angles
3. Classify angles according to their degree measures
4. Work with triangles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons

Goal 4: To work with measurement and data sets

Objectives:

1. Find areas and perimeters of triangles, parallelograms, and other polygons
2. Find the circumference and area of circles
3. Find the surface area and volume of rectangular prisms and cylinders
4. Experiment with probability
5. Learn about simple and compound events as well as disjoint events

Goal 5: To develop understanding of mathematical practices

Objectives:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. Model with mathematics
5. Use appropriate tools strategically
6. Attend to precision
7. Look for and make use of structure
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

6TH GRADE

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Ancient Civilization

Goal 1: To understand the development of ancient civilizations

Objectives:

1. Explore the major tools and skills that are used to understand the world and history
2. Explore significant events in the development of the earliest human societies

Goal 2: To explore the early civilization of Southwest Asia

Objectives:

1. Describe the development of human civilization in Sumer
2. Explore the development of empires in the ancient world and ways government grew to adapt to the challenges of ruling vast territories

Goal 3: To describe the development of civilization in Ancient Africa

Objectives:

1. Describe the civilization of ancient Egypt and the reigns of important pharaohs
2. Examine societies and civilization in other parts of Africa during the same period

Goal 4: To explore the development and expansion of civilizations in Ancient Asia and the Americas

Objectives:

1. Examine the first civilizations in India
2. Explore the rich civilization of ancient China
3. Trace the emergence and accomplishments of civilizations in the Americas

Goal 5: To describe the roots of Western ideas

Objectives:

1. Describe the origins and the history of the Jews, including their interaction with Rome in Judea
2. Explore the geography, beliefs, customs, and government of ancient Greece, as well as the Persian Wars
3. Discuss the history and legacy of classical Greek ideas, the Peloponnesian War, and Alexander the Great

Goal 6: To explore the beginnings and expansion of the Roman Empire

Objectives:

1. Examine the effects of geography and social structure on ancient Rome
2. Analyze the origins and early spread of the Christian religion

6TH GRADE

SCIENCE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: To understand the basics of studying Earth science

Objectives:

1. Understand characteristics of being a scientist
2. Review the scientific method
3. Understand safety rules for the sciencelab
4. Know and apply basic tools of measurement
5. Understand maps and models that can be used in science
6. Read a topographic map
7. Understand the earth's systems
8. Understand how heat flows by conduction, convection and radiation
9. Know the sun is the major source of energy for the Earth's surface

Goal 2: To understand the Earth's resources

Objectives:

1. Understand renewable and non-renewable resources
2. Know that minerals are important resources
3. Understand fossil fuels and alternative energy sources

Goal 3: To learn about plate tectonics and the Earth's structure

Objectives:

1. Understand the structure of the Earth
2. Explain the theory of plate tectonics
3. Understand California geology
4. Explain why earthquakes happen, how they are measured, and the factors involved in how much damage occurs
5. Understand how volcanoes form and know the various types of volcanoes

Goal 4: To understand how the Earth's surface changes

Objectives:

1. Understand weathering and erosion and the role it plays in shaping the surface

Goal 5: To see how the Earth's oceans and atmosphere affect weather and climate

Objectives:

1. Understand the topography of the ocean
2. Understand the ocean as an important resource
3. Describe the basics of weather and climate

6TH GRADE

SCIENCE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 6: To understand the interdependence of the Earth's ecosystem

Objectives:

1. Explore how everything in the environment is connected and how organisms depend on each other
2. Understand the role of producers, consumers, and decomposers
3. Understand that the availability of biotic and abiotic resources affects all organisms

Investigation and Experimentation

Goal 1: To understand the scientific process.

Objectives:

1. To select and use appropriate tools and technology to perform tests, collect data, and display data.
2. To construct appropriate graphs from data and develop qualitative statements about the relationships between variables.
3. To communicate the steps and results from an investigation in written reports and oral presentations.
5. To recognize whether evidence is consistent with a proposed explanation.

7TH GRADE

BIBLE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: To understand the events and significance of the Gospels

Objectives:

1. Know the Gospel's authors and which groups of people each Gospel was meant to address
2. Identify key themes
3. Compare the purpose and scope of the four Gospels
4. Relate the events of Jesus' early life
5. Understand the parables and apply them to our lives today
6. Identify four key categories of the miracles Jesus performed
7. Tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection

Goal 2: To understand the key events in the growth of the Christian church

Objectives:

1. Tell how the church began
2. Describe worship in the early church
3. Outline the growth of the first church
4. Describe six missionary principles demonstrated by Paul

Goal 3: To understand the teachings and purposes of Paul's epistles

Objectives:

1. Outline Paul's gospel as described in the book of Romans
2. Explore the themes of Paul's letters; e.g., unity, joy, thinking of eternity, living in the light of Christ's coming, walking worthy to be called saints, fighting the good fight, forgiveness
3. Identify leadership positions in the church and traits of Christian leadership

Goal 4: To understand how to live a life of faith in troubled times

Objectives:

1. Compare the elements of the new covenant to the old
2. Understand the nature and results of a saving faith
3. Discuss holy living in the midst of suffering
4. Distinguish true teaching from false
5. Describe the warnings of Jude and John
6. Discuss the purpose and scope of Revelation

7TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

READING

Goal 1: To use their knowledge of word origins and word relationships, to determine the meaning of specialized vocabulary and to understand the precise meaning of grade-level-appropriate words.

Objectives:

1. Read aloud narrative and expository text fluently and accurately and with appropriate pacing, intonation, and expression
2. Identify and interpret figurative language and words with multiple meanings
3. Recognize the origins and meanings of frequently used foreign words in English and use these words accurately in speaking and writing
4. Monitor expository text for unknown words or words with novel meanings by using word, sentence, and paragraph clues to determine meaning

Goal 2: To read and understand grade-level-appropriate material.

Objectives:

1. Determine theme or central ideas of a text
2. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text
3. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently
4. Cultivate understanding of story elements
5. Assess point of view or purpose to show how it shapes the content and style of a text

WRITING

Goal 1: To write clear, coherent, and focused essays.

Objectives:

1. Choose the form of writing that best suits the intended purpose
2. Create multiple-paragraph expository compositions:
 - a. Engage the interest of the reader and state a clear purpose
 - b. Develop the topic with supporting details and precise verbs, nouns, and adjectives to paint a visual image in the mind of the reader
 - c. Conclude with a detailed summary linked to the purpose of the composition
3. Use a variety of effective and coherent organizational patterns, including comparison and contrast; organization by categories; and arrangement by spatial order, order of importance, or climactic order
4. Revise writing to improve the organization and consistency of ideas within and between paragraphs

Goal 2: To write texts of at least 500 to 700 words in each genre.

Objectives:

1. To write expository compositions:
 - a. State the thesis or purpose
 - b. Explain the situation
 - c. Follow an organizational pattern appropriate to the type of composition
 - d. Offer persuasive evidence to validate arguments and conclusions as needed
 - e. Convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately

7TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

2. To write responses to literature:
 - a. Produce clear and coherent writing that takes into account the task, purpose, and audience
 - b. To organize the interpretation around several clear ideas, premises, or images
 - c. To develop and justify the interpretation through sustained use of examples and textual evidence
3. To write persuasive compositions:
 - a. State a clear position on a proposition or proposal
 - b. Support the position with organized and relevant evidence
 - c. Anticipate and address reader concerns and counterarguments
4. To write poetry:
 - a. Learn and implement various types of figurative language into their own poetry
 - b. Use technology to produce, publish, interact, and collaborate with others during the writing process

Language

Goal 1: To write with a command of Standard English conventions appropriate to this grade level.

Objectives:

1. Use simple, compound, and compound-complex sentences; use effective coordination and subordination of ideas to express complete thoughts
2. To use correct punctuation
3. To use correct capitalization.

Listening and Speaking Skills

Goal 1: To deliver focused, coherent presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background and interests of the audience.

Objectives:

1. Relate the speaker's verbal communication to the nonverbal message (e.g., posture, gesture)
2. Identify the tone, mood, and emotion conveyed in the oral communication
3. Restate and execute multiple-step oral instructions and directions
4. Select a focus, an organizational structure, and a point of view, matching the purpose, message, occasion, and vocal modulation to the audience
5. Emphasize salient points to assist the listener in following the main ideas and concepts
6. Support opinions with detailed evidence and with visual or media displays that use appropriate technology
7. Use effective rate, volume, pitch, and tone and align nonverbal elements to sustain audience interest and attention
8. Analyze the use of rhetorical devices for intent and effect

7TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Pre-Algebra

Goal 1: To work with algebraic expressions and integers

Objectives:

1. Identify numerical and algebraic expressions
2. Write algebraic expressions
3. Use order of operations and grouping symbols
4. Evaluate expressions
5. Compare integers
6. Find absolute value
7. Add, subtract, multiply, and divide integers

Goal 2: To calculate and solve one-step equations and inequalities

Objectives:

1. Identify and use properties
2. Identify parts of an algebraic expressions
3. Simplify an algebraic expression
4. Classify types of equations
5. Use addition or subtraction to solve equations
6. Use addition, subtraction multiplication, and division to solve inequalities

Goal 3: To solve problems with decimals, equations, factors, fractions, exponents, ratios and percentages

Objectives:

1. Add, subtract, multiply, and divide with decimals
2. Identify and convert appropriate metric measures
3. Use perimeter formula
4. Find factors
5. Use exponents
6. Find prime factorizations, greatest common factors, and equivalent fractions
7. Simplify fractions
8. Evaluate fractions containing variables
9. Multiply powers with the same base
10. Find a power of a power
11. Write, evaluate, and calculate with scientific notation
12. Find the least common multiples
13. Write rational numbers and decimals as fractions
14. Add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions
15. Find rates
16. Solve proportions
17. Write percentages as fractions and decimals
18. Use equations to solve percent problems

7TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 4: To solve equations and inequalities

Objectives:

1. Use properties to solve two-step equations
2. Solve problems with two-step equations
3. Combine like terms

Goal 5: To work with concepts in geometry

Objectives:

1. Identify points, lines and planes
2. Identify intersecting, parallel, and skew lines
3. Identify adjacent and vertical angles
4. Relate angles and parallel lines
5. Classify triangles
6. Find the area of geometric shapes
7. Name space figures
8. Construct nets
9. Find surface area of prisms, cylinders, pyramids, cones and spheres
10. Find volume of cones, prisms, pyramids, and cylinder

Goal 6: To collect data and perform data analysis

Objectives:

1. Find mean, median, mode and range
2. Choose the best measure
3. Use frequency tables and line plots
4. Make box-and-whisker plots
5. Make and analyze stem-and-leaf plots

7TH GRADE

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Medieval and Early Modern Times

Goal 1: Students analyze the causes and effects of the vast expansion and ultimate disintegration of the Roman Empire.

Objectives:

1. Study the early strengths and lasting contributions of Rome (e.g., significance of Roman citizenship; rights under Roman law; Roman art, architecture, engineering, and philosophy; preservation and transmission of Christianity) and its ultimate internal weaknesses (e.g., rise of autonomous military powers within the empire, undermining of citizenship by the growth of corruption and slavery, lack of education, and distribution of news)
2. Discuss the geographic borders of the empire at its height and the factors that threatened its territorial cohesion
3. Describe the establishment by Constantine of the new capital in Constantinople and the development of the Byzantine Empire, with an emphasis on the consequences of the development of two distinct European civilizations, Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic, and their two distinct views on church-state relations

Goal 2: Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Islam in the Middle Ages.

Objectives:

1. Identify the physical features and describe the climate of the Arabian peninsula, its relationship to surrounding bodies of land and water, and nomadic and sedentary ways of life
2. Trace the origins of Islam and the life and teachings of Muhammad, including Islamic teachings on the connection with Judaism and Christianity
3. Explain the significance of the Qur'an and the Sunnah as the primary sources of Islamic beliefs, practice, and law, and their influence in Muslims' daily life
4. Discuss the expansion of Muslim rule through military conquests and treaties, emphasizing the cultural blending within Muslim civilization and the spread and acceptance of Islam and the Arabic language
5. Describe the growth of cities and the establishment of trade routes among Asia, Africa, and Europe, the products and inventions that traveled along these routes (e.g., spices, textiles, paper, steel, new crops), and the role of merchants in Arab society
6. Understand the intellectual exchanges among Muslim scholars of Eurasia and Africa and the contributions Muslim scholars made to later civilizations in the areas of science, geography, mathematics, philosophy, medicine, art, and literature

Goal 3: Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of China in the Middle Ages.

Objectives:

1. Describe the reunification of China under the Tang Dynasty and reasons for the spread of Buddhism in Tang China, Korea, and Japan
2. Describe agricultural, technological, and commercial developments during the Tang and Sung periods
3. Analyze the influences of Confucianism and changes in Confucian thought during the Sung and Mongol periods
4. Understand the importance of both overland trade and maritime expeditions between China and other civilizations in the Mongol Ascendancy and Ming Dynasty
5. Trace the historic influence of such discoveries as tea, the manufacture of paper, wood-block printing, the compass, and gunpowder
6. Describe the development of the imperial state and the scholar-official class

7TH GRADE

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 4: Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the sub-Saharan civilizations of Ghana and Mali in Medieval Africa.

Objectives:

1. Study the Niger River and the relationship of vegetation zones of forest, savannah, and desert to trade in gold, salt, food, and slaves; and the growth of the Ghana and Mali empires
2. Analyze the importance of family, labor specialization, and regional commerce in the development of states and cities in West Africa
3. Describe the role of the trans-Saharan caravan trade in the changing religious and cultural characteristics of West Africa and the influence of Islamic beliefs, ethics, and law
4. Trace the growth of the Arabic language in government, trade, and Islamic scholarship in West Africa
5. Describe the importance of written and oral traditions in the transmission of African history and culture

Goal 5: Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Medieval Japan.

Objectives:

1. Describe the significance of Japan's proximity to China and Korea and the intellectual, linguistic, religious, and philosophical influence of those countries on Japan
2. Describe the values, social customs, and traditions prescribed by the lord-vassal system consisting of *shogun*, *daimyo*, and *samurai* and the lasting influence of the warrior code in the twentieth century
3. Trace the development of distinctive forms of Japanese Buddhism.
4. Analyze the rise of a military society in the late twelfth century and the role of the samurai in that society

Goal 6: Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Medieval Europe.

Objectives:

1. Study the geography of the Europe and the Eurasian land mass, including its location, topography, waterways, vegetation, and climate and their relationship to ways of life in Medieval Europe
2. Describe the spread of Christianity north of the Alps and the roles played by the early church and by monasteries in its diffusion after the fall of the western half of the Roman Empire
3. Understand the development of feudalism, its role in the medieval European economy, the way in which it was influenced by physical geography (the role of the manor and the growth of towns), and how feudal relationships provided the foundation of political order
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the conflict and cooperation between the Papacy and European monarchs (e.g., Charlemagne, Gregory VII, Emperor Henry IV).
5. Know the significance of developments in medieval English legal and constitutional practices and their importance in the rise of modern democratic thought and representative institutions (e.g., Magna Carta, parliament, development of habeas corpus, an independent judiciary in England)

7TH GRADE

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

6. Discuss the causes and course of the religious Crusades and their effects on the Christian, Muslim, and Jewish populations in Europe, with emphasis on the increasing contact by Europeans with cultures of the Eastern Mediterranean world
7. Map the spread of the bubonic plague from Central Asia to China, the Middle East, and Europe and describe its impact on global population
8. Understand the importance of the Catholic church as a political, intellectual, and aesthetic institution (e.g., founding of universities, political and spiritual roles of the clergy, creation of monastic and mendicant religious orders, preservation of the Latin language and religious texts, St. Thomas Aquinas's synthesis of classical philosophy with Christian theology, and the concept of "natural law")
9. Know the history of the decline of Muslim rule in the Iberian Peninsula that culminated in the Reconquista and the rise of Spanish and Portuguese kingdoms

Goal 7: Students compare and contrast the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the Meso-American and Andean civilizations.

Objectives:

1. Study the locations, landforms, and climates of Mexico, Central America, and South America and their effects on Mayan, Aztec, and Incan economies, trade, and development of urban societies
2. Study the roles of people in each society, including class structures, family life, war-fare, religious beliefs and practices, and slavery
3. Explain how and where each empire arose and how the Aztec and Incan empires were defeated by the Spanish
4. Describe the artistic and oral traditions and architecture in the three civilizations
5. Describe the Meso-American achievements in astronomy and mathematics, including the development of the calendar and the Meso-American knowledge of seasonal changes to the civilizations' agricultural systems

Goal 8: Students analyze the origins, accomplishments, and geographic diffusion of the Renaissance.

Objectives:

1. Describe the way in which the revival of classical learning and the arts fostered a new interest in humanism (i.e., a balance between intellect and religious faith)
2. Explain the importance of Florence in the early stages of the Renaissance and the growth of independent trading cities (e.g., Venice), with emphasis on the cities' importance in the spread of Renaissance ideas
3. Understand the effects of the reopening of the ancient "Silk Road" between Europe and China, including Marco Polo's travels and the location of his routes
4. Describe the growth and effects of new ways of disseminating information (e.g., the ability to manufacture paper, translation of the Bible into the vernacular, printing)
5. Detail advances made in literature, the arts, science, mathematics, cartography, engineering, and the understanding of human anatomy and astronomy (e.g., by Dante Alighieri, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo di Buonarroti Simoni, Johann Gutenberg, William Shakespeare)

7TH GRADE

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 9: Students analyze the historical developments of the Reformation.

Objectives:

1. List the causes for the internal turmoil in and weakening of the Catholic church (e.g., tax policies, selling of indulgences)
2. Describe the theological, political, and economic ideas of the major figures during the Reformation (e.g., Desiderius Erasmus, Martin Luther, John Calvin, William Tyndale)
3. Explain Protestants' new practices of church self-government and the influence of those practices on the development of democratic practices and ideas of federalism
4. Identify and locate the European regions that remained Catholic and those that became Protestant and explain how the division affected the distribution of religions in the New World
5. Analyze how the Counter-Reformation revitalized the Catholic church and the forces that fostered the movement (e.g., St. Ignatius of Loyola and the Jesuits, the Council of Trent)
6. Understand the institution and impact of missionaries on Christianity and the diffusion of Christianity from Europe to other parts of the world in the medieval and early modern periods; locate missions on a world map
7. Describe the Golden Age of cooperation between Jews and Muslims in medieval Spain that promoted creativity in art, literature, and science, including how that cooperation was terminated by the religious persecution of individuals and groups (e.g., the Spanish Inquisition and the expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Spain in 1492)

Goal 10: Students analyze the historical developments of the Scientific Revolution and its lasting effect on religious, political, and cultural institutions.

Objectives:

1. Discuss the roots of the Scientific Revolution (e.g., Greek rationalism; Jewish, Christian, and Muslim science; Renaissance humanism; new knowledge from global exploration)
2. Understand the significance of the new scientific theories (e.g., those of Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton) and the significance of new inventions (e.g., the telescope, microscope, thermometer, barometer)
3. Understand the scientific method advanced by Bacon and Descartes, the influence of new scientific rationalism on the growth of democratic ideas, and the coexistence of science with traditional religious beliefs

Goal 11: Students analyze political and economic change in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries (the Age of Exploration, the Enlightenment, and the Age of Reason).

Objective:

1. Know the great voyages of discovery, the locations of the routes, and the influence of cartography in the development of a new European worldview
2. Discuss the exchanges of plants, animals, technology, culture, and ideas among Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries and the major economic and social effects on each continent

7TH GRADE

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

3. Examine the origins of modern capitalism; the influence of mercantilism and cottage industry; the elements and importance of a market economy in seventeenth-century Europe; the changing international trading and marketing patterns, including their locations on a world map; and the influence of explorers and map makers
4. Explain how the main ideas of the Enlightenment can be traced back to such movements as the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Scientific Revolution and to the Greeks, Romans, and Christianity
5. Describe how democratic thought and institutions were influenced by Enlightenment thinkers (e.g., John Locke, Charles-Louis Montesquieu, American founders)
6. Discuss how the principles in the Magna Carta were embodied in such documents as the English Bill of Rights and the American Declaration of Independence

7TH GRADE

SCIENCE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Living Things

Goal 1: To gain knowledge of the ever-changing nature of our planet

Objectives:

1. Understand the scope of life science study, including the methods and tools used in this field of study
2. Apply the scientific method
3. Understand the characteristics of living things and know the necessities of living things
4. Understand the relationship between light and living things

Goal 2: To understand the interactions in ecosystems.

Objectives:

1. Know and understand the characteristics of cells and eukaryotic cells, and the organization of living things
2. Know and understand how cells obtain energy
3. Know and understand the cell cycle

Goal 3: To understand concepts of genes and heredity

Objectives:

1. Know the work of Gregor Mendel and how it adds to our understanding of heredity
2. Understand the basics of how traits are inherited
3. Understand meiosis
4. Be able to describe how DNA looks and how it works

Goal 4: To understand the history of life on Earth

Objectives:

1. Describe the eras and the age of the earth
2. Understand relative and absolute dating
3. Understand how the age of fossils is determined and how this is used to understand the age of the earth
4. Describe the theory of evolution and Creation theory
5. Compare and contrast the theory of evolution and Creation theory as both viable options for viewing the earth
6. Understand the domain and kingdom classification system

Goal 5: To understand the structure and function of both plants and animals

Objectives:

1. Know the characteristics that distinguish plant cells from animal cells, including chloroplasts and cell walls
2. Know that mitochondria liberate energy for the work that cells do and chloroplasts capture sunlight energy for photosynthesis
3. Know the differences between the life cycles and reproduction methods of sexual and asexual organisms
4. Know plants and animals have levels of organization for structure and function
5. Know the structures and process by which flowering plants reproduce

Goal 6: To understand the systems of the human body

Objectives:

1. Understand how the body is organized
2. Understand there are 11 systems in the human body
3. Nutrition and fitness, infectious disease, and the immune system

Investigation and Experimentation

Goal 1: To understand the scientific process.

Objectives:

1. Develop a hypothesis
2. Select and use appropriate tools and technology to perform tests, collect data, and display data
3. Construct appropriate graphs from data and develop qualitative statements about the relationships between variables
4. Communicate the steps and results from an investigation in written reports and oral presentations
5. Recognize whether evidence is consistent with a proposed explanation
6. Form and explain the conclusion reached through the experimentation process

8TH GRADE

BIBLE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Understand the uniqueness of Jesus and His claims

Objectives:

1. Define what makes Jesus different from other “savior” figures in different religions
2. Explain the logic behind the lord, liar, lunatic trilemma
3. Explore Josh McDowell’s search to understand Christ and His claims
4. Explain why Jesus was crucified and condemned for His claims to be God

Goal 2: To understand that the Bible is trustworthy

Objectives:

1. Distinguish between scientific proof versus legal-historical proof
2. Explain why the New Testament can pass the Bibliographical Test
3. Identify internal and external pieces of evidence for the reliability of the Bible
4. Examine how scientific probabilities of fulfilled prophecies in the Bible attest to its credibility
5. Explore archaeological discoveries of the Bible that prove its credibility as a historical set of documents
6. Compare the number of New Testament manuscripts with manuscripts that we have to other manuscripts of antiquity
7. Examine the credible eyewitness accounts in the Gospels of the life of Christ

Goal 3: To understand the New Atheist movement

Objectives:

1. Define key names in the New Atheist movement
2. Determine the main goals of the New Atheist movement
3. Understand the characteristics of the New Atheist movement
4. Refute some of the claims of the New Atheist movement
5. Understand that there is no moral standard without God

Goal 4: To understand the reliability of the Resurrection

Objectives:

1. Examine events surrounding the resurrection of Jesus
2. Explore medical evidence that proves that Jesus’ death
3. Understand how the Romans secured Jesus’ tomb
4. Identify alternative theories about Jesus’ resurrection and why they are contrived or illogical
5. See an example of a renowned lawyer who looked at all the evidence of the resurrection and became a believer in its authenticity

8TH GRADE

BIBLE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 5: To understand the Spirit-filled life

Objectives:

1. Know who the Holy Spirit is
2. Explore the booklet "My Heart Christ's Home" to gain an understanding of surrendering control of every area of your life to Christ
3. Know how to be filled with the Holy Spirit
4. Explain what it means to walk in the Spirit

Goal 6: To understand the gospel and effectively communicate the gospel to others

Objectives:

1. Comprehend what the gospel is
2. Explore ways to introduce the gospel and engage someone in a spiritual conversation
3. Present the gospel using a tract
4. Present the gospel using the Romans Road method
5. Present the gospel using the Wordless book
6. Understand assurance of salvation

Goal 7: To understand how to inductively study the Bible

Objectives:

1. Explore the background information of a Biblical passage
2. Understand how to make observations of a Biblical passage
3. Understand ways to interpret a Biblical passage
4. Identify how to apply the Biblical passage to your life
5. Know how to use online commentaries and concordances

Goal 8: To understand God's heart for all people in the world

Objectives:

1. Examine information about the physical, social and spiritual needs of people in other countries and people groups around the world
2. Identify and pray for the needs of people around the world
3. Explore Bible verses that talk about God's heart for all people to come to know Him

8TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Reading

Goal 1: To use knowledge of word origins and word relationships, to determine the meaning of specialized vocabulary and to understand the precise meaning of grade-level-appropriate words.

Objectives:

1. Read aloud narrative and expository text fluently and accurately and with appropriate pacing, intonation, and expression
2. Identify and interpret figurative language and words with multiple meanings
3. Recognize the origins and meanings of frequently used foreign words in English and use these words accurately in speaking and writing
4. Monitor expository text for unknown words or words with novel meanings by using word, sentence, and paragraph clues to determine meaning
5. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining figurative meanings

Goal 2: To read and understand grade-level-appropriate material.

Objectives:

1. Determine theme or central ideas of a text
2. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text
3. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently
4. Cultivate understanding of story elements
5. Assess point of view or purpose to show how it shapes the content and style of a text
6. Gain a basic understanding and appreciation of Shakespeare's life, his work, and his world
7. Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of text relate to each other and the whole

Writing

Goal 1: To write clear, coherent, and focused essays.

Objectives:

1. Choose the form of writing that best suits the intended purpose.
2. Create multiple-paragraph expository compositions:
 - a. Engage the interest of the reader and state a clear purpose.
 - b. Develop the topic with supporting details and precise verbs, nouns, and adjectives to paint a visual image in the mind of the reader
 - c. Conclude with a detailed summary linked to the purpose of the composition
3. Use a variety of effective and coherent organizational patterns, including comparison and contrast; organization by categories; and arrangement by spatial order, order of importance, or climactic order
4. Revise writing to improve the organization and consistency of ideas within and between paragraphs

8TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 2: To write texts of at least 500 to 700 words in each genre.

Objectives:

1. To write expository compositions:
 - a. State the thesis or purpose
 - b. Explain the situation
 - c. Follow an organizational pattern appropriate to the type of composition
 - d. Offer persuasive evidence to validate arguments and conclusions as needed
 - e. Convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately
2. To write responses to literature:
 - a. Produce clear and coherent writing that takes into account the task, purpose, and audience
 - b. To organize the interpretation around several clear ideas, premises, or images
 - c. To develop and justify the interpretation through sustained use of examples and textual evidence
3. To write persuasive compositions:
 - a. State a clear position on a proposition or proposal
 - b. Support the position with organized and relevant evidence
 - c. Anticipate and address reader concerns and counterarguments

Language

Goal 1: To write with a command of standard English conventions appropriate to this grade level.

Objectives:

1. Use simple, compound, and compound-complex sentences; use effective coordination and subordination of ideas to express complete thoughts
2. Produce writing that is grammatically correct, especially with complex sentences and subject/verb agreement
3. To use correct punctuation
4. To use correct capitalization
5. To edit original work

8TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Listening and Speaking Skills

Goal 1: To deliver focused, coherent presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background and interests of the audience.

Objectives:

1. Relate the speaker's verbal communication to the nonverbal message (e.g., posture, gesture)
2. Identify the tone, mood, and emotion conveyed in the oral communication
3. Restate and execute multiple-step oral instructions and directions
4. Select a focus, an organizational structure, and a point of view, matching the purpose, message, occasion, and vocal modulation to the audience
5. Emphasize salient points to assist the listener in following the main ideas and concepts
6. Support opinions with detailed evidence and with visual or media displays that use appropriate technology
7. Use effective rate, volume, pitch, and tone and align nonverbal elements to sustain audience interest and attention
8. Analyze the use of rhetorical devices for intent and effect

8TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Algebra

Goal 1: To work with algebraic expressions

Objectives:

1. Use variable
2. Know the order of operations
3. Use exponential notation
4. Use properties of numbers in algebra
5. Add, subtract, multiply and divide real numbers
6. Write expressions and evaluate formulas
7. Use the distributive property

Goal 2: To calculate and solve multi-step equations and inequalities

Objectives:

1. Solve two-step and multi-step equations
2. Solve equations with variables on both sides
3. Use ratios
4. Set up and solve proportion problems
5. Set up equations for problem solving
6. Solve mixture problems
7. Graph inequalities
8. Solve inequalities with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
9. Solve multi-step and compound inequalities

Goal 3: To work with graphs and functions

Objectives:

1. Graph on the coordinate plane
2. Identify the relation of a functions
3. Model functions using rules, tables and graphs
4. Write a function rule
5. Solve problems using direct variation, inverse variation, and inductive and deductive reasoning

Goal 4: To solve and graph linear equations

Objectives:

1. Identify the rate of change and slope
2. Know and utilize slope-intercept form
3. Know and utilize point-slope form
4. Know and utilize standard form
5. Identify parallel and perpendicular lines

Goal 5: To understand systems of equations and inequalities

Objectives:

1. Solve systems by graphing
2. Solve systems by using substitution
3. Solve systems using elimination
4. Understand the applications of linear systems
5. Solve and graph systems of linear inequalities

8TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 6: To use exponents, polynomials, and factoring to solve equations

Objectives:

1. Solve problems containing zero and negative exponents
2. Write numbers in scientific and standard notation
3. Understand multiplication properties of exponents
4. Use division properties of exponents
5. Add and subtract polynomials
6. Multiply and factor polynomials
7. Multiply binomials
8. Identify special cases
9. Factor trinomials of different types, factor special cases, and factor by grouping

Goal 7: To learn quadratic equations and functions

Objectives:

1. Explore quadratic graphs
2. Identify quadratic functions
3. Find and estimate square roots
4. Solve quadratic equations
5. Complete the square
6. Use the quadratic formula and the discriminant

Goal 8: To work with radical expressions and equations

Objectives:

1. Simplify radicals
2. Use the Pythagorean Theorem
3. Solve operations with radical expressions
4. Solve radical equations
5. Graph square root functions

Goal 9: To work with rational expressions and equations

Objectives:

1. Simplify rational expressions
2. Multiply and divide rational expressions
3. Divide polynomials
4. Add and subtract rational expressions
5. Solve rational equations

8TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Geometry

Goal 1: To review the use of the tools of geometry

Objectives:

1. Learn patterns and inductive reasoning
2. Make drawings, nets, and other models
3. Identify points, lines, and planes
4. Identify segments, rays, parallel lines, and planes
5. Measure segments and angles
6. Make basic constructions
7. Review coordinate planes
8. Measure perimeter, circumference, and area

Goal 2: To learn geometric reasoning and how to construct a proof

Objectives:

1. Learn conditional statements
2. Learning bi-conditionals and definitions
3. Use deductive reasoning
4. Review reasoning in algebra
5. Prove angles congruent

Goal 3: To work with parallel and perpendicular lines and their properties

Objectives:

1. Identify properties of parallel lines
2. Prove lines parallel
3. Use angle-sum theorems
4. Plot lines in a coordinate plane
5. Plot slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines
6. Construct parallel and perpendicular lines

Goal 4: To learn the properties of triangles

Objectives:

1. Identify congruent triangles
2. Prove triangle congruence
3. Use congruent triangles for problem solving
4. Develop theorems of triangle congruence using isosceles, equilateral, and right triangles
5. Identify midsegments and bisectors of triangles
6. Learn concurrent lines, medians, and altitudes
7. Learn inverses, contrapositives, and indirect reasoning
8. Prove inequalities in triangles

8TH GRADE

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 5: To learn the properties of quadrilaterals

Objectives:

1. Classify quadrilaterals
2. Identify properties of parallelograms
3. Prove quadrilaterals are parallelograms
4. Identify special parallelograms
5. Construct proofs using coordinate geometry

Goal 6: To use similarity to construct proofs

Objectives:

1. Review ratios and proportions
2. Identify similar polygons
3. Prove triangle similarity
4. Prove the similarity of right triangles
5. Prove triangle proportions

Goal 7: To learn the properties of right triangles and introduce trigonometry

Objectives:

1. Review the Pythagorean Theorem and learn its converse
2. Apply theorem to special right triangles
3. Learn the tangent, sine and cosine ratios
4. Measure angles of elevation and depression
5. Calculate vectors

Goal 8: To identify different transformations

Objectives:

1. Identify and find the following—
 - a. Translations
 - b. Reflections
 - c. Rotations
 - d. Symmetry
 - e. Dilations
 - f. Tessellations and Compositions

Goal 9: To calculate area, surface area, and volume

Objectives:

1. Calculate areas of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, rhombuses, kites, and regular polygons
2. Identify the perimeters and areas of similar figures
3. Use trigonometry and area
4. Measure circles, arcs, and sectors
5. Identify space figures and cross sections
6. Measure the surface area of prisms, cylinders, pyramids, and cones
7. Find the volumes of prisms, cylinders, pyramids, and cones
8. Measure the areas and volumes of spheres and similar solids

**8TH
GRADE**

MATH

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 10: To work with the properties of circles

Objectives:

1. Recognize tangent lines, chords, and arcs
2. Use inscribed angles
3. Measure angles and segment lengths as applied to circles
4. Construct circles in the coordinate plane

8TH GRADE

UNITED STATES HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Growth and Conflict

Goal 1: To understand the major events preceding the founding of the nation and relate their significance to the development of American constitutional democracy.

Objectives:

1. Describe how events on four continents led to the exploration of the Americas and the meeting of peoples from diverse cultures
2. Identify the leading European explorers of North America and explain the effects on the Native Americans
3. Describe the origins and development of slavery in the colonies
4. Describe how the first English colonies began and how the colonists both learned and experienced conflict with the Native Americans
5. Analyze the economic and social development of the colonies during the first half of the 18th century
6. Identify the political, social, and economic values shared by the British colonists and how these values, combined with historical events, led to the growth of a representative government

Goal 2: To analyze the political principles underlying the U.S. Constitution and compare the enumerated and implied powers of the federal government.

Objectives:

1. Understand the events that pushed Great Britain and the American colonies apart and led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence
2. Understand the events that led to the American Revolution in chronological sequence and analyze the causes that led to an American victory
3. Analyze the Articles of Confederation, major issues faced by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and the debate over ratifying the Constitution
4. Understand the seven principles of government that helped to shape the Constitution

Goal 3: To understand the foundation of the American political system and the ways in which citizens participate in it.

Objectives:

1. Explain how the leaders of the new nation established a sound economy and a stable, democratic government
2. To how the election and presidency of Thomas Jefferson shaped the government and how the Louisiana Purchase and War of 1812 affected the nation
3. Analyze the ways in which industrialization changed American society, encouraged the expansion of slavery, and contributed to both nationalism and sectionalism during the first half of the century

8TH GRADE

UNITED STATES HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 4: To analyze the aspirations and ideals of the people of the new nation.

Objectives:

1. Understand the far-reaching consequences of the political and economic decision made during the presidency of Andrew Jackson
2. Understand westward expansion and its political, economic, and social effects on the development of the nation
3. Study the era from 1820-1860 to identify patterns in immigration to the United States
4. Learn how reform movements impacted the United States during this same time period

Goal 5: To understand the roots, events, and long-term impact of the Civil War

Objectives:

1. Understand the conflicts that pulled the North and South apart and the attempts that were made to try to resolve these issues
2. Know how the Civil War began, its progress during the early years, and its impact on the Union and Confederate soldiers
3. Understand the major events of the Civil War leading to a Union victory and the effect of this conflict on the country
4. Describe the political conflict over how to rebuild the South and the impact of Reconstruction on the nation

Goal 6: To examine the geography of the United States in order to understand how its features have shaped the histories of its regions

1. Examine the five themes of geography
2. Explore how they aid geographic observation and analysis
3. Identify ways in which the geography of the United States has affected its development

8TH GRADE

SCIENCE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Physical Science

Goal 1: To gain knowledge of the construction of the natural world

Objectives:

1. Plan and conduct scientific investigation
2. Apply the scientific method
3. Understand the necessity of safety in science
4. Use tools and models to increase the ability to investigate the natural world
5. Analyze data in order to make predictions

Goal 2: To survey the structure of matter

Objectives:

1. Understand the characteristics of matter
2. Understand the state of matter
3. Know how matter is combined to form elements, compounds, and mixtures

Goal 3: To understand the arrangement of matter at the atomic level

Objectives:

1. Analyze the development of Atomic Theory
2. Understand the arrangement and grouping of the elements in the Periodic Table
3. Understand the use of the Periodic Table in scientific inquiry

Goal 4: To describe the interactions of matter

Objectives:

1. Describe chemical bonding
2. Understand chemical reactions
3. Understand chemical compounds
4. Know the chemistry of living things

Goal 5: To understand motions and forces

Objectives:

1. Measure the matter in motion and describe both force and friction
2. Demonstrate gravity and motion
3. Know and explain Newton's Laws of Motion
4. Understand and demonstrate forces in fluids such as pressure, buoyancy, and density

Goal 6: To understand the structure of the universe

Objectives:

1. Understand stars, galaxies, and their relationships in the universe
2. Articulate the difference between Creation theory and the Theory of Evolution in discussing the origins of the universe
3. Reconstruct Earth's solar system in model form

8TH GRADE

SCIENCE

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Investigation and Experimentation

Goal 1: To understand the scientific process.

Objectives:

1. To develop a hypothesis
2. To select and use appropriate tools and technology to perform tests, collect data, and display data
3. To construct appropriate graphs from data and develop qualitative statements about the relationships between variables
4. To communicate the steps and results from an investigation in written reports and oral presentations
5. To recognize whether evidence is consistent with a proposed explanation
6. To form and explain the conclusion reached through the experimentation process
7. Present findings in an oral presentation