

# John Nevins Andrews School



## Mustangs

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# Key Learnings in

## Eighth Grade

## KEY LEARNINGS: EIGHTH GRADE

### BIBLE

**Explore Origins of the Bible:** Through the Trinity, Personal Relationship with Jesus and Practical Christianity

- Explain the role of inspiration in the formation of the Bible as it was written and preserved
- Describe the concept of the Trinity and identify the characteristic of each member
- Understand the importance of faith, commitment and a dynamic relationship with Jesus
- Know the fundamental Seventh-day Adventist beliefs
- Explain the importance of developing relationships with others based on Christian values
- Know how to apply Christian principles to one's daily life
- Develop an understanding of and appreciation for Adventist heritage
- Recognize the importance of and participate in community service activities

### FINE ARTS

**Art** - Consult the *NAD Fine Arts Curriculum Guide* for suggested activities to meet these objectives.

- Select media, techniques and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices
- Employ organizational structures and analyze their effectiveness in the communication of ideas
- Use subjects, themes and symbols that demonstrate knowledge of contexts, values and aesthetics that communicate intended meaning in artwork
- Describe and place a variety of art objects in historical and cultural context

The purpose of this document is to give families an overview of their child's classroom learning experiences throughout the entire school year. A child's program may differ depending on his/her instructional needs.

## **EIGHTH GRADE FINE ARTS Continued**

- Analyze, describe and demonstrate how factors of time and place influence visual characteristics that give meaning and value to a work of art
- Describe and compare a variety of individual responses to their own artworks and to artworks from various eras and cultures
- Describe ways in which the principles and subject matter of other disciplines taught in the school are interrelated with the visual arts

### **Music**

- Identify irregular meter patterns (5/4, 7/4)
- Learn all major key signatures
- Sing a more complex two-part song
- Recognize modulation
- Recognize symphonic form
- Describe how a computer can enhance music
- Listen to music of the Renaissance period
- Learn how to use the various indexes in the SDA hymnal

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

### **Viewing**

- Locate and interpret examples of literary forms from visual media
- Define aspects of media production and distribution
- Determine the cause and effect of detailed answers to extend the understanding of visual media
- Use figurative language from visual media and answer specific questions to demonstrate
- Understanding

### **Listening**

- Analyze presentations by purpose
- Analyze propaganda and argumentation

## **EIGHTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS Continued**

### **Reading**

- Develop study skills
- Use specific strategies to understand confusing parts of text; e.g. predict, clarify, question, and summarize
- Read for comprehension and application
- Apply a variety of strategies for word study

### **Speaking**

- Analyze the impact of media on consumers
- Participate in group discussions; refine and use cooperative group processes

### **Visually Representing**

- Create visual media to support a presentation
- Model visual media techniques to show the impact on a particular audience

### **Writing**

- Practice the writing process
- Begin using characteristics of good writing
- Continue enhancing the writing modes
- Narrow the topic to achieve an appropriate focus
- State main idea clearly in a cohesive one sentence thesis
- Write documents related to career development

## **MATH**

### **Number and Operations**

- Use appropriate significant digits in calculations
- Extend understanding of number operations to irrational numbers
- Know the definition of real numbers, set notation and set operations

### **Algebra**

- Add and subtract matrices
- Recognize slope and intercept relationships

## **EIGHT GRADE MATH Continued**

- Use information to determine whether situations are functions
- Recognize minimum and maximum values
- Understand the properties of arithmetic and geometric sequences
- Develop an initial conceptual understanding of different uses of variables
- Identify functions as linear or nonlinear and contrast their properties from tables, graphs or equations

### **Geometry**

- Find the surface area of various geometric shapes, e.g. pyramids and cones
- Find the volume of spheres using formula
- Define objects by geometric properties
- Recognize sine, cosine and tangent relationships with respect to the right triangle

### **Measurement**

- Draw picture to assist in solving measurement problems
- Find the size of interior and exterior angles of convex polygons using formula and protractor
- Use appropriate significant digits in calculations
- Convert temperature between Fahrenheit and Celsius

### **Data Analysis and Probability**

- Determine the number of combinations from a given set
- Make a box and whisker plot

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **Spiritual Emphasis**

- Recognize that God's ideal for quality living includes a healthy lifestyle

## **EIGHTH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION Continued**

- Incorporate into one's lifestyle the principles that promote health: nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest, trust in God
- Avoid at-risk behaviors
- Apply Christian principles in recreation and sports
- Achieve a balance in work and leisure; balancing physical, mental, social and spiritual activities
- Recognize the interaction of physical, mental and spiritual health with emotional and social wellbeing

### **Movement and Motor Skills**

- Demonstrate competence in modified versions of a variety of movement forms
- Understand and apply more advanced movement and game strategies
- Identify the techniques of intermediate and advanced sport specific skills
- Identify the steps needed to achieve a high performance level in individual, dual and team sports
- Learn, apply and share advanced sport skill knowledge

### **Lifestyle and Fitness**

- Establish personal physical activity goals
- Participate regularly in health-enhancing physical activities in and out of the physical education class
- Explore a variety of new physical activities for personal interest in and out of the physical education class
- Describe the relationships between a healthy lifestyle and "feeling good"
- Participate in a variety of health-related fitness activities in both school and non-school settings
- Assess physiological indicators of exercise during and after physical activity
- Learn and apply basic principles of training to improve physical fitness

## **EIGHTH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION Continued**

- Begin to develop personal fitness goals independently
- Meet the health-related fitness standards as defined by available fitness tests, e.g. AAPHERD Physical Best, Fitnessgram, President's Challenge
- Enjoy participation in physical activity
- Recognize the social benefits of participation in physical activity
- Try new and challenging activities
- Recognize physical activity as a vehicle for self-expression

### **Sportsmanship and Appropriate Behaviors**

- Apply God's help in resisting the influence of peer pressure
- Solve problems by analyzing causes and potential solutions
- Analyze potential consequences when confronted with true competition
- Work cooperatively with a group to achieve group goals in competitive as well as cooperative settings
- Recognize the role of sport, games and recreation
- Identify behaviors that are supportive and inclusive as well as behaviors that are exclusionary in physical activity settings
- Willingly join others of diverse cultures, religions, ethnicity, physical abilities and races during physical activity

## **SCIENCE**

### **Physical:** Chemistry

- Explain the structure of matter and how different forms can be combined to create new substances
- Explain conservation of matter
- Describe how elements are organized on the periodic table
- Compare the properties of acids and bases
- Identify and compare physical and chemical change

## **EIGHTH GRADE SCIENCE Continued**

- Identify methods used to separate mixtures into their component parts

### **Life:** Ecology (Natural Resources); Plant Processes

- Explain how use of natural resources affects quality of life and the health of ecosystems
- Recognize that Earth's materials are limited and explore strategies for addressing this problem
- Describe how water, carbon dioxide, oxygen, and nitrogen are recycled through the environment
- Describe the life processes of a plant including photosynthesis and reproduction

### **Earth:** Creation/Evolution

- Distinguish between the basic ideas of and evidence for naturalistic evolution and special creation

### **Health:** Health Risks, Community Health

- Describe personal and community health care practices that result in prevention, detection and treatment of communicable diseases
- Know how to locate and use community health resources that provide valid health information
- Identify community health organizations and agencies such as The American Cancer Society and the advocacy services they provide

### **Scientific Inquiry**

- Make observations
- Ask questions or form hypotheses based on these observations
- Plan a simple investigation
- Collect data from the investigation
- Use the data collected from the investigation to explain the results
- Safely use and store tools and equipment

## EIGHTH GRADE SCIENCE Continued

### Service and Career Options

- Explore ways to use Physical, Life, Health and/or Earth Science to serve the community
- Identify careers in areas of science

## SOCIAL STUDIES

**OVERRIDING STATEMENTS:** Civics, geography and economics should be studied within the context of the history for each grade.

**INTEGRATION OF FAITH & LEARNING:** Although individual religious concepts are not explicitly stated, the idea of God's leading in the affairs of history and human relationships should be embedded in all of the social studies lessons.

**United States History:** 1861 – Present (Civil War and Reconstruction, Industrial Revolution, Social and Economic Reform, Global Conflicts, United States as World Power, Depression, Modern America, Current Events; United States Government – Constitution)

- Understand God's ultimate control and protection over human affairs
- Understand the basic precepts of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights
- Describe the relationships between key people/groups, events and cultures in United States history
- Explain the role of laws in the United States and the process through which they are made, applied and enforced
- Know the causes and effects of key influences/events and be able to place them on a time line
- Interpret events using time lines and narratives
- Use primary and secondary documents and artifacts to interpret historical events

## EIGHTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES Continued

- Understand the daily life and social history of people who lived in early United States history
- Recognize how forces from different spheres of life can cause or shape events
- Understand the role and work of the Adventist church in North America
- Recognize the importance of and participate in community service activities

### Civics

- Understand the roles of the Christian citizen in government
- Understand the checks and balance function of the three branches of government
- Trace the development of the American political system and government based on the United States constitution and the Bill of Rights
- Identify citizen rights and how the constitution protects those rights
- Understand the purposes of government as stated in the constitution
- Explain the role of laws in the United States and the process through which they are made, applied and enforced
- Identify how actions of the United States government affect its own citizens as well a citizens of other countries
- Know the importance of Christian citizenship and cultural diversity

### Geography

- Understand the nature, distribution and migration of human population on the earth's surface
- Understand how human actions modify the environment
- Understand the patterns of human settlement and their causes
- Identify the geographic role of the United States in international relationships

## **EIGHTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES Continued**

- Identify geographic regions and major places of the United States

### **Economics**

- Identify the principles of Christian stewardship
- Understand the meaning of Gross National Product
- Understand the role of the United States and free enterprise in a global economy
- Understand the concept of prices and the interaction of supply and demand in a market economy
- Identify how changes in technology affect the economy
- Understand that every job opportunity is related to economics
- Recognize how the influence of the development of technology, immigration of peoples and changes in the world market effect career opportunities

### **TECHNOLOGY**

- Integrate advanced word processing skills into daily assignments
- Continue to advance in keyboarding skills
- Troubleshoot basic malfunctions
- Know proper technology terms
- Understand the equipment to access, process, retrieve and communicate information
- Incorporate database and spreadsheet components into presentations
- Integrate advanced use of electronic resources into class assignments and presentations
- Investigate technology-related occupations
- Demonstrate a responsible, ethical use of technology

- Understand the legal issues for using/accessing software, music, etc.

**Here are some suggestions to help your child be more successful at school**

1. Assure your children that they are loved. Tell them that you love them, and show them by spending time doing things with them that they enjoy.
2. Provide your children with opportunities to talk about their interests, current events, school activities, and everyday life.
3. Encourage reading. For younger children take time to read to them each evening before bedtime. Classics and Bible stories are excellent. Take your children to the library on a regular basis.
4. Help your children establish a regular daily routine for homework, play time, chores, television watching, and family time.
5. Make sure your children get plenty of rest each night. Research has shown that adequate sleep boosts a child's achievement and helps to prevent childhood obesity. Children under 5 years of age should get 11 hours of sleep. Children ages 5-10 should get 10 hours or more. Children older than 10 years old should get at least 9 hours of sleep.
6. Model the good manners you want your child to exhibit. Words like please, thank you, and excuse me are always in style and need to be deliberately taught. Daily family worship should be a regular part of your child's routine. Provide an opportunity for your children to develop a spiritual faith that can be relied upon during the difficult growing years. Regular church attendance is an important part of a well balanced lifestyle.

7. Younger children learn by playing. Learning games provide a rich source of opportunities for your children to learn.
8. Monitor your children's school work. Work with your children's teachers. Always consider yourself a partner of your children's teachers.
9. Support your children's teachers and the school rules. If you are concerned about something, call or meet with your children's teachers promptly. Don't wait until a full-grown problem develops.
10. Make sure your children get a healthy, substantial breakfast each morning. Nourishing meals are important to your children's health as well as their success in school. Lunches and snacks that your children bring to school should include healthy treats.
11. Make sure children arrive at school on time every unless they are sick. A child who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year. If they are sick please keep them at home. Sharing is good, but sharing a nasty bug is not.
12. Teach your children to respect themselves and others. The Golden Rule, the model Christ gave us, should be the foundation for all our interpersonal relationships.
13. Make sure your children get regular health, vision, and dental check-ups.
14. Be positive about school. Do not make negative comments about your children's school or teachers.
15. Check your children's school newsletter and web site at [www.jna.org](http://www.jna.org) regularly.

16. Attend back to school nights, parent/teacher conferences, and be an enthusiastic supporter of your school's activities.
17. Teach your children the importance of education. Model lifelong learning. Praise your children when they do their best.
18. Encourage responsibility and independence. Help your children get organized for school the night before.
19. Have a regular place for your children to study at home. It should have a sturdy chair, adequate lighting, a place to write and work, and be supplied with adequate supplies such as pencils crayons, calculator, etc. There should be no television, video games, music players, or any other distractions in the study area.
20. Share with your children your standards for acceptable computer use and monitor their computer use. Computers should be in a location where they are readily viewable by parents and other family members.

**For additional resources, please visit the school's website at [www.jna.org](http://www.jna.org)**

