



Middle School Course Catalog

2021-2022

-English-

6th Grade English

The English curriculum consists of grammar, spelling, vocabulary, writing, literature and poetry.

- Grammar – The grammar curriculum stresses the parts of speech, using many different exercises. Writing is included.
- Spelling – The spelling program emphasizes learning the basic spelling rules with five vocabulary words per week added. The vocabulary comes from literature reading.
- Poetry – The poetry curriculum consists of memorizing several different poems and reciting them out loud in front of the class weekly. The favorite poems here in 6th grade are “The Charge of the Light Brigade” and “Jabberwocky.”
- Writing – For writing, the students are assigned writings each week on various topics that I select. The emphasis is on learning to write a clear, concise paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting details, and a summarizing sentence. This paragraph is built on in 7th and 8th grade to form the 5-paragraph essay.
- Literature – Finally, the grammar and literature come together as we do four book reports in the 6th grade. Two are from a list of classic books, and one is a biography which is presented orally and requires the student to dress up as the person they have read about. The final report is fourth quarter when we study the book *Where the Red Fern Grows* using study sheets. After the study of the book, each student writes a book report.

7th Grade English

The English curriculum for 7th grade is similar to that of 6th grade except that it is more challenging. The grammar curriculum builds on the parts of speech stressed in 6th grade and adds the study of adjective and adverb clauses and appositives. Diagramming continues to be stressed.

Spelling – Weekly spelling words increases to twenty and vocabulary to seven. Quizzes over the twenty-four lessons are on Fridays.

- Poetry – Poetry is recited out loud each quarter and several oral impromptu speeches are required.
- Writing – For writing, the study of the paragraph is continued with stresses on writing different kinds of paragraphs. Emphasis is on making the students’ writing more interesting by varying sentence structure, etc.
- Literature – Studied in short-story format and through the use of quarterly book reports. Just as in sixth grade, one book report is oral. In addition, we study the book *The Bronze Bow* in depth during the fourth quarter.

8th Grade English

The English curriculum in 8th grade builds on the concepts taught in the sixth and seventh grades with many review exercises. In addition, the concept of the noun clause is introduced. Sentence diagramming continues.

- Spelling – Weekly spelling tests remains at twenty words, but weekly vocabulary increases to ten words. During the sixth and seventh grades, students are also required to use their vocabulary words in proper sentences in addition to their weekly quizzes. In the 8th grade, they are required to use them in a paragraph.
- Poetry – Poetry is the same as 7th grade with oral recitation.
- Writing – For 8th grade writing, the paragraph is expanded into a five-paragraph essay.
- Literature – Literature is the same as 7th grade with written and oral book reports. During the fourth quarter, we study the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

-Mathematics -

Fundamentals of Math

6th grade math students will be instructed in the areas of adding, subtracting, multiplying of whole numbers, dividing of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, number theory, ratios, proportions, and percentages, perimeter, area, and volume.

PreAlgebra

Algebraic expressions and linear equations are applied throughout a thorough review of operations on integers, fractions, decimals, percents, and radicals. Students explore relations and functions using equations, tables, and graphs. Chapters on statistics and geometry extend foundational concepts in preparation for high school courses. Problem solving and real life uses of math are featured throughout this course.

Algebra I

This course covers the basic skills of algebra. The basic concepts of algebra are presented, and then students practice those skills until they are mastered. Algebra I is a prerequisite for advanced math and science classes. This is high school level course that counts as one mathematical unit towards graduation.

-Social Studies-

6th Grade Histroy

This course studies the history, culture, characteristics and geographical features of Canada, the United States, Mexico, Caribbean, Central America, and South America

7th Grade History

This course presents the history of the world from a Christian perspective and plan for the future in light of Christian principles. From the beginning of the world to today's modern way of life, this course teaches students that "the most important part of a culture is how people relate to God." This course covers Egyptians and their pyramids, Rome and its empire, Johann Guttenberg and his printing press, America and the Industrial Era, the World Wars, and more.

8th Grade History

The course's emphasis on faith, patriotism, and moral conviction will make American history meaningful for students. The inclusion of civics studies and projects teaches students how the United States govern-

- Science -

6th Grade Science

6th grade science at VCA is a General Science class with topics in the fields of Earth, Physical and Life Science.

- The first semester is a focus on Earth and Life Science. We will work our way through the earth's design, resources, plants and cells, as well as animals and their classifications. Learners will also be challenged and introduced to research projects on various topics.
- The second semester's emphasis will be on both Physical and Earth Science. Here we will dive into the intricacies of God's perfect design in subjects of matter as we study the atomic structure, molecules and the periodic table. We also look at the depth and wonder of creation by exploring the vastness of astrology and light energy.

7th Grade Life Science

7th grade year at Victory Christian delve into the wondrous depths of Life Science.

- The first semester we study the relationship between science and faith, exploring God's perfect design in such complex matters. We navigate the scientific method in preparation for students participating in a middle school science fair. We also start navigating the process of genetics and how life grows and develops according to how it is created, not what it wants to be.
- The second semester resumes and wraps-up a section on genetics by exploring reproduction before going into human anatomy. A combination of activities and models will allow students to interact and engage in the awareness of one's own body and God's creation.

8th Grade Earth Science

8th grade at VCA is an in-depth exploration of the earth - from the sea to the atmosphere, from weather to stars, we investigate how to adhere to God's mandate of care and cultivate the earth.

- In the first semester, learners go on an underwater exploration of the sea to learn topography, formation, local sea life and preservation of life (both above and below the water). The semester ends with an introduction to global weather and climate patterns.
- The second semester blows right into weather, and how they vary over certain regions. We work through various types of weather and a deeper understanding of how they move and storms are formed. As we continue to move up in the atmosphere, we break into the universe of the unknown, God's majestic and vast beauty; exploring planets, constellations and hands-on activities to reveal the infinite universe.

- Bible -

6th / 7th Grade Bible

A “survey-style” overview of the major doctrines of Scripture. We will be covering the following topics:

What the Bible has to say about –

- Itself (Bibliology)
- God (Theology Proper)
- Jesus Christ (Christology)
- The Holy Spirit (Pneumatology)
- Angels (Angelology)
- Man (Biblical Anthropology)
- Sin (Hamartiology)
- Salvation (Soteriology)
- The Church (Ecclesiology)

8th Grade Bible

The spread of the Gospel; 11 lessons from Acts (3 weeks)

The foundation of the Gospel – creation, fall, judgment, and redemption (30 weeks)

The demonstration of the Gospel; 11 lessons focused on Jesus and women in the gospels (3 weeks)

- Grading based on participation, regular quizzes, weekly memorization and quarter or semester projects and/or presentations.
- Weekly time for a testimony; early weeks begin with presentation of gospel; move into training and preparation on how to present the gospel; bring in parents or other teachers to give 10-15 minute testimony; expect students to present gospel or personal testimony
- Weekly verse recitation; memory verses chosen and discussed to reinforce lesson OR to start and build on memorizing a long passage
- May also reserve time daily to read through a biography of an outstanding Christian or a devotional.

- Electives -

Middle School Choral Music Appreciation

Welcome to the world of musical discovery! This Music Appreciation class will focus on music history and the basic components of music theory.

Middle School Physical Education

The Victory Christian Academy's Physical Education Program enhances total wellness of students through intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual development.

Middle School Art

This exploratory class designed to help improve students' basic art skills; drawing, painting and sculpting, design artwork using a variety of media and techniques, develop students' creativity and self-expression, and recognize and use the art elements (line, shape, color, value, form, texture and space), and design principles (rhythm, balance, proportion, variety, emphasis, harmony and unity).

Middle School Life Skills

This elective class will focus on units of instruction, demonstration and participation in basic life skills including (but not limited to):

- General tool use
- Home maintenance
- Car maintenance
- Personal finance management
- Meal preparation
- Child care
- Gardening
- Self-defense
- Event planning
- Public speaking
- Lesson preparation

Students will be introduced to basic skills, hobbies, places of service, and careers and thereby expand their perspective and possibly aid in a choice of career, church service, and/or community involvement.