



ESSENTIAL LEARNING FOR SEVENTH GRADE

At the end of Seventh Grade, students should be able to demonstrate mastery of the following material:

LANGUAGE ARTS

- Identify elements of story in a short story
- Trace a character's *Hero's Journey*
- Identify and critique how perspective impacts a poem
- Critique archetypes
- Identify different types of nonfiction and classify their characteristics
- Select textual evidence to support an argument about a novel
- Look at literature with a Christian worldview and interpret text from this viewpoint.
- Create a specific and thoughtful argument in a topic sentence
- Use and cite textual evidence in MLA format
- Compose Step Up To Writing expository writing including introduction and conclusion (stoplight paragraph, accordion essay)
- Compose a personal narrative using Step Up To Writing
- Prepare and participate in a debate on a current topic
- Identify the parts of speech and apply to proper sentence structure
- Memorize and correctly use vocabulary words including Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes
- Correctly apply rules of capitalization and punctuation

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

- Communicate and listen effectively in collaborative groups
- Give and receive encouragement as well as constructive feedback on presentation skills
- Analyze the elements of spoken word poetry and speech that make it effective
- Verbalize and explain a belief with confidence
- Communicate with group members and resolve conflict

The mission of San Jose Christian School is to advance the kingdom of God by providing exceptional teaching and curriculum fully integrated with Biblical perspective. Within our Christian community we live to engage and transform culture for Jesus Christ.

BIBLE

- Memorize and explain context of key Bible passages
- Evaluate one's own place in the Story of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration
- Explain Old Testament covenants and reenact Jewish Festivals
- Analyze the wisdom book of Job and its relationship to a present view of human suffering
- Analyze the wisdom book of Proverbs to live in the fear of the Lord
- Describe metaphors and Messianic prophecies of Isaiah
- Discuss the Inter-testament Period including the Maccabees ' role
- Develop personal Bible study, worship, and prayer habits

SCIENCE (EARTH SCIENCE)

- **Diversity of Life:** Explain what it means to be alive, the structure of cells, and how organisms are classified across the tree of life by using microscopes and laboratory cultures to explore the microscopic world and the complexity of living systems
- **Populations & Ecosystems:** Explore ecology by investigating how organisms interact with each other and their environment, how energy and matter flow through ecosystems, and how to choose responsible stewardship to care for the Earth God created
- **Human Systems Interactions:** Explore and explain human anatomy and physiology gaining an appreciation for God's unique design for human life by studying human body systems, organs, and senses
- **Heredity & Adaptation:** Explore and explain structural evidence, genetic variation, and natural selection of similarity and biodiversity of life on Earth
- Consider and apply the scientific method to a research-based capstone project and present findings in the science fair

HISTORY (MEDIEVAL & EARLY MODERN TIMES)

- Discuss the reasons for studying history and recognize how the past influences the present and future
- Identify major events from AD 30 and discern their effects: Rise of Christianity; Islamic, African, and Asian Civilizations; Imperial China; Medieval Europe; Renaissance and Reformation, Exploration; Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment; Political and Industrial Revolutions; Imperialism; WW I; WW II
- Define major political and physical features, describe their impact, and locate: China, Japan, SE Asia, Africa, Americas, Europe
- Understand the Christian faith and story within the scope of world history, compared and contrasted to Islam and Buddhism
- Evaluate the role government plays in the lives of the people
- Trace development of the government and culture of the United States to the roots of European philosophers and documents
- Evaluate past and current events from a Christian perspective

PRE-ALGEBRA (ONE OF TWO MATH OPTIONS)

- Explain one's own mathematical thinking
- Model different representations of and manipulate integers
- Perform calculations using similarity, scale factor, rates, and ratio
- Create linear relationships through graphs, equations and tables
- Solve one- and two- step equations and inequalities
- Evaluate powers and scientific notation
- Apply theoretical and experimental probability and statistics

ALGEBRA 1 (ONE OF TWO MATH OPTIONS)

- Explain one's personal mathematical thinking
- Reason quantitatively and use properties of rational and irrational numbers, including roots and exponents
- Perform operations on polynomials to solve equations and inequalities, and represent them graphically
- Identify, transform, and apply various functions to solve problems, including linear, absolute value, quadratic, exponential, and radical
- Solve systems of equations algebraically

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Increase personal muscular and cardiorespiratory fitness
- Assume responsibility for personal fitness using fitness logs
- Explain how different exercises strengthen different muscle groups
- Create workouts based on targeted muscle groups
- Explain various systems of the human body
- Perform basic tactics from team sports
- Explain fundamental game tactics of team sports
- Identify Christian decisions relating to competition

CONCERT BAND

- Enjoy music as a gift from God and share musical gifts positively within the community
- Turn setbacks into growth opportunities for personal and music growth through reflection and goal setting
- Listen attentively as musicians and fellow human beings
- Explain and demonstrate proper breathing mechanics to play in four- to eight-measure phrases
- Correctly perform all major, minor, and chromatic scales
- Correctly articulate legato, staccato, accent, and slur markings
- Correctly perform intermediate meters, rhythms, and dynamics
- Develop skill mastery in a community environment
- Develop regular practice habits and meet practice goals

ART

- Create art as a response to faith and emotion
- Integrate elements of art into projects
- Apply techniques in watercolor, acrylic paint, charcoal, oil pastel, marker, and colored pencil
- Analyze and respond to artwork from various artists

TECHNOLOGY / DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

- Develop an approach to technology and one's digital presence based on effective communication and wise decision-making
- Interact with a variety of digital tools and digital resources
- Use technology as a tool for learning and problem-solving