

St. Margaret Catholic School

6th Grade Curriculum

Amplify - ELA

Amplify ELA is a blended English language arts curriculum designed specifically to support students in grades 6–8 and prepare them for high school and beyond. With Amplify ELA, students learn to tackle any complex text and make observations, grapple with interesting ideas, and find relevance for themselves. Students are engaged through dynamic texts, lively classroom discussions, and meaningful digital experiences.

Select novels are taught as a Novel Study each quarter such as *Hatchet*, *Maniac McGee*, and *The Sign of the Beaver*. SMCS uses Accelerated Reader and STAR Reading to motivate students to read and monitor their success.

ENGLISH – Elements of Language – Holt/Amplify ELA

- Paragraph writing, essays, reports
- Writing process of prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading
- Grammar such as parts of speech, sentence structure, and punctuation
- Writing styles required such as argumentative, expository, narrative, DBQ (Document Based Questions), Literary Analysis, and Email Writing
- Writer’s Inc. Student Handbook, Sebranek, Kemper, Meyer
- Use of RAP CC method for constructed response

MATH – Glencoe Math

- Integers
- Long division
- Decimals
- Order of operations
- Variables & expressions
- ALEKS
 - Added dimension to Math program
 - Provides adaptive, personalized learning and assessment to target knowledge gaps
 - Delivers focused instruction
 - Allows the teacher to differentiate instruction to support and challenge each student’s unique learning needs
- Fractions
- Mean, Median, Mode
- Factorization
- Graphs
- Perimeters & Area
- Geometry – angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, parallelograms

SOCIAL STUDIES – Discovering our Past: A History of the World

- World History/Geography
- Early man
- Ancient Egypt
- Hebrews
- Renaissance
- Ancient Greece
- Greek Mythology
- Roman Republic
- Christianity
- Middle Ages
- The DBQ Project: Document Based Questions

SCIENCE

- Science Fair participation
- Chemistry – atoms, elements, Periodic Table
- N.E.E.D.
- Lab Safety
- Scientific Method through hands-on experiments and activities
- Introduction of STEM
- Energy – forms, sources, light, motion, sound, electricity, magnetism
- Students attend the Chem Expo at McNeese
- Weather/Hurricanes

RELIGION

The theme entails a blueprint for a life of love: the law of God, especially in the Ten Commandments, and the presence of Jesus in the Holy Mass. The interaction of challenges of God's law and his gifts of grace that help us fulfill his law.

Part 1: The Ten Commandments; forming conscience and increasing closeness to God

Part 2: The Holy Mass; an emphasis on the Real Presence and Christ's Sacrifice and explanation of the parts of the Mass.

Part 3: The Last Things; Death and God's Judgment of us with an emphasis on the great happiness of Heaven.

6th-8th all participate in Lectio Divina (meditating with scripture)

ENRICHMENT

Junior High students rotate enrichment classes of Computer, Music, Spanish, and Art every quarter. Students attend these classes daily for a 50-minute period during that quarter. Students attend PE 3x/week and Library 1x/week all year long.

OPEN ENRICHMENT

- **Drama** **Life Skills** **Road Trip USA** **STEM** **Coding** **Career Explorations**

Students attend open enrichment for 30 minutes on Fridays for the entire year. Students are given choices and must select their top 3. Each student will be placed in one of their top 3 choices for that year.

TECHNOLOGY

Each classroom is equipped with a Promethean ActivBoard and AV station for instruction and learning. Our students are 1 to 1 with each student having their own Chrome book to help enhance the instruction within the classroom. Google Classroom is used widely among junior high students.