

Saint Bartholomew School

Eighth Grade Curriculum Guide



Language Arts

Reading (Literature)

- Cite evidence that supports text meaning
- Determine theme of a text
- Analyze development of theme
- Analyze how dialogue develops aspects of a text
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases
- Compare structure of two related texts
- Analyze how points of view create suspense, humor, etc.
- Evaluate faithfulness of filmed or live productions of a story
- Analyze modern takes on classic stories

Reading (Informational Text)

- Cite evidence that supports text meaning
- Determine central idea of a text
- Analyze development of central ideas
- Analyze textual connections between individuals, ideas, or events
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases
- Analyze the structure of a paragraph.
- Determine an author's point of view
- Evaluate the pros and cons of different mediums
- Evaluate arguments and evidence
- Analyze conflicting information in two texts.

Writing

- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- Write informative texts to examine a topic through the selection, organization, and analysis of content
- Write narratives using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences
- Produce work appropriate to the purpose, & audience
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, editing, and revising
- Use technology to produce and publish writing
- Interact and collaborate with others
- Conduct short research projects, drawing on several sources and generate questions
- Gather information from multiple sources and quote or paraphrase the data, avoiding plagiarism
- Draw evidence from texts to support claims

Speaking & Listening

- Engage effectively in collaborative discussions with diverse partners
- Interpret information presented in different media and explain how it contributes to the topic
- Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, determining which are supported by fact
- Clearly present claims and findings, sequencing logically and accentuating main ideas
- Use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks.
- Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information

Language

- Demonstrate command of English grammar
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate vocabulary

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Mathematics

Expressions and Equations

- Work with radicals and integer exponents
- Evaluate square and cube roots
- Perform operations using scientific notation
- Compare and graph proportional relationships
- Analyze and solve single and pairs of linear equations

Functions

- Define, evaluate, and compare functions
- Relate a graph of a function to its ordered pairs
- Use functions to model relationships between quantities
- Determine rate of change and initial value of linear functions

Number System

- Identify irrational numbers
- Compare rational and irrational numbers
- Demonstrate decimal expansion
- Estimate the value of expressions using rational and irrational numbers

Statistics and Probability

- Construct scatter plots of data
- Analyze patterns between two quantities and the proximity of data
- Solve problems using slope of measured data
- Create and analyze tables that compare data and variables

Geometry

- Understand congruence and similarity
- Verify the properties of rotations, reflections, and translations and describe their effects
- Establish facts about a triangle's angle sum
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem
- Solve real-world problems involving volume of various shapes

Mathematical Practices

- Make sense of problems
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- Critique the reasoning of others
- Model with mathematics
- Use tools strategically
- Use precision
- Look for and utilize structure
- Look for and express regularity

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Science

Scientific Practices

- Identify questions that can be answered through scientific investigations
- Design experiments with control groups & variables
- Create data tables and graphs
- Make careful observations and measurements
- Find patterns that support conclusions

Astronomy

- Explain the position of the moon relative to its phases
- Describe Earth's position relative to the sun during different seasons
- Explain gravity's role in a solar system
- Describe and model the planets of our solar system

Earth Science

- Explain the rock and water cycles
- Compare weather and erosion patterns
- Demonstrate cycles in chemical and physical changes in Earth's materials
- Describe non-renewable resources & how they're created
- Explain plate tectonics and how earth moves and changes over time
- Explain the impact of natural hazards and how humans measure and impact them

Physics

- Describe the parts of a wave
- Understand the properties of different kinds of waves (light, radio, etc.)
- Demonstrate the relationships between kinetic energy, mass, and speed
- Conduct experiments that show changes in states of matter and transference of energy
- Explore how forces interact with objects and each other

Biology

- Describe different kinds of cells and how they make up different kinds of organisms
- Describe how plants and animals reproduce
- Explain how energy is obtained and released by living organisms
- Explain how organisms respond to stimuli
- Understand how genetics pass on certain traits

Chemistry

- Describe and identify acids and bases
- Combine chemicals and observe changes
- Model and balance chemical reactions
- Describe the effects of specific chemical reactions
- Define different kinds of atomic bonds
- Model changes of states of matter

Ecosystems and Weather

- Explain how ecosystems and organisms depend on resources
- Define and describe biotic and abiotic factors
- Describe food chains and the food web and how energy is transferred between organisms
- Explain how changes to ecosystems affects populations
- Explain how different cycles (water, nitrogen, etc.) help maintain biodiversity
- Explain how human activity affects ecosystems
- Explain how air masses affect weather
- Identify causes of regional climates
- Identify how human activity affects the climate

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Social Studies

U.S. History

- Identify how the changes in American industry shaped historical events
- Identify the causes of the Civil War, its major battles, and the end of the war
- Analyze the period of Reconstruction and how it shaped American communities
- Describe the causes of the Great Depression and efforts to reverse its effects
- Describe how citizens responded to events such as World War II
- Analyze the impact of late 20th and early 21st century events and how they have shaped modern society
- Describe America's evolution into a global power and its role in international affairs

Government

- Describe the philosophies and ideals that inspired the Constitution
- Analyze the powers and limitations of each branch of government
- Identify the powers held by federal, state, and local government
- Explore the impact of important Supreme Court cases throughout American history
- Describe how the Constitution is changed and how interpretations of the Constitution have evolved over time
- Explain the election processes at federal, state, and local levels
- Debate factors that shape electoral processes, including the Electoral College

Economics

- Analyze the impact of supply, demand, surplus, and scarcity
- Describe causes of unemployment
- Describe how international trade affects the economy
- Describe different types of taxes and how they're used
- Explain laws that govern production and trade

Civics and Culture

- Explain the importance of voting
- Evaluate the rights and responsibilities of citizens
- Identify individuals or groups that have had major impact on public policy
- Explain how diversity enriches communities
- Describe how various groups have gained rights over time

Geography & Human Migration

- Explain patterns of human migration
- Explain how events from the past affect characteristics of a place
- Describe natural processes that affect natural resource distribution
- Analyze how urbanization affects geography and natural resources

Tools & Research

- Evaluate primary and secondary sources
- Make inferences about historical events using documents and artifacts
- Discern between fact, fiction, and opinion in historical documents
- Display spatial information by creating maps, graphs, charts, etc.

*Note: Students will take the state mandated Constitution test during the 8th grade year.

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Religion

Creed

- Show understanding of the Holy Trinity
- Show understanding of faith and its importance
- Recognize our sins and salvation through Jesus

Sacraments

- Understand the sacraments of the Church as signs of God's love
- Participate in the sacraments
- Prepare for and undergo Confirmation

Liturgy

- Understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church
- Identify and explain the significance of items and symbols used in liturgical rites

Catholic Church

- Describe major events in Church history, from Pentecost through modern day
- Describe the role of the Catholic Church and the Pope in society

Sacred Scripture

- Describe how to read and interpret Scripture, both literally and spiritually.
- Recount events and lessons from the Acts of the Apostles

Parish Life

- Show an understanding of stewardship
- Describe parish structure and the importance of diversity in the parish community

Christian Prayer & Spirituality

- Identify specific prayers and the purpose of prayer
- Identify psalms appropriate for prayer
- Describe the relationship between prayer and the Holy Spirit

Vocation

- Recognize the role of vocation in the life of a Catholic
- Define and describe catechists as teachers and witnesses of faith

Ecumenism & Dialogue

- Show that ecumenism and dialogue are evangelizing works to help create unity and peace in the world.
- Show an understanding of the key ideals and beliefs of other major religions

Christian Living

- Describe how Catholics interact with civil authorities and work toward a just society
- Identify moral and evil actions and specific acts supported or rejected by the Church.