

SIXTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

Memorizing facts and information is not the most important skill in today's world. Facts change, and information is readily available. Our goal is to develop and nurture in our students the inquiring attitudes necessary to continue the generation and examination of knowledge throughout their lives.

Developing thinking skills helps students become effective learners. Important skills include inquiry, creative thinking, information processing, reasoning, and evaluation. Essential personal skills include communication, diligence, reliability, the mindset necessary to improve, collaboration, and ethical awareness.

Science topics for sixth graders include properties of matter, atoms and elements, world biomes, electricity, and the nervous system. Inquiry Projects, with a focus on technical writing, are displayed at the GHCDs Science Fair, where students have the opportunity to present their research to an audience of professionals and parents.

In the fifth and sixth grade social studies is organized on a two year rotation; with the focus of the first year on geography of the eastern hemisphere; and the second year geography of the western hemisphere. In the third quarter the social studies and science curricula are integrated in preparation for the Science Fair. In the fourth quarter students are involved in a World Religions unit in the first year rotation, and in an oral history project in the second.