

**Linden Waldorf School  
SEVENTH GRADE CURRICULUM**

2014-2015

**OVERVIEW**

Main Lesson Block/Content

- Age of Exploration
- Reformation
- Renaissance
- World geography
- Physics
- Creative Writing
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Physiology
- Algebra

Music

- Choral music: renaissance music, African songs, madrigals
- Soprano, alto, tenor and bass recorder
- Strings/Orchestra

Practical and Fine Arts

- Perspective drawing
- Painting
- Drama
- Woodwork
- Clay modeling
- Felting
- Three-dimensional hand-sewing

Movement/Spacial Dynamics™

- Intermediate team sports
- Folk dancing
- Circus journeymen
- Eurythmy

Foreign Language

- Spanish: reading and conversation, grammar and structural drills, poetry, vocabulary, art and geography

Skills Class

- Math
- Language Arts

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**LANGUAGE ARTS SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

**Reading Skills:** Students will listen to and recite ballads, poems, legends and folktales from around the world, as well as reading assigned novels. Students will learn to appreciate the English language for its artistic form as well as its grammatical content. Students will present no less than 4 book reports.

These will include descriptions of the following:

- Main characters
- Setting
- Summary
- Personal opinions

**Writing Skills:** Given a block of several weeks, students will focus daily on the emotions of wish, wonder and surprise in literature, learn to express these contrasting moods through choral recitation, dramatization, composition, writing and poetry. Students will also learn grammar and writing skills necessary to compose formal letters, original compositions, ballads and essays. These skills will include, but not be limited to:

- Subject and predicate
- Phrases and clauses
- Pronouns
- Declension
- Active and passive voice
- Parenthetical expressions
- Meter, rhyme, imagery and intonation (prosody)
- Simile and metaphor

Consistently given assignments in writing, together with dictation, spelling fluency is increased.

Continue to review and practice skill acquired in grade six.

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**MATH SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

Mastery will be evaluated through:

- Class participation
- Board work
- Written exercises
- Tests and quizzes

**Math Concepts with Computation (corresponding to Main Lesson Blocks)**

Primarily during the algebra and geometry math blocks, but also through history, geography, physics and perspective drawing main lesson blocks, the following concepts will be introduced and practiced:

- History and terminology for beginning algebra
- Negative numbers, including practical applications
- Absolute Value of a number
- Combining positive and negative numbers; rules for multiplication & division
- Formulas and the importance of form
- Represent patterns and mathematical situations involving tables, graphs, verbal rules, and equations in algebraic language and apply variables, expressions, and equations to solve real-world problems and mathematical problems
- Simplifying expressions
- Solving simple algebraic equations (*Golden Rule of Equations*)
- Area of the parallelogram and the non-right triangle, Shear and Stretch, review of sixth grade area
- Pythagorean Theorem (from a geometric perspective)
- Angle theorems and simple proofs
- Pentagon and the Golden Ratio
- Irrational numbers (e.g. golden mean and Fibonacci series; could be brought in history blocks)
- Geometric drawing and construction
- Inverse proportionality (physics)
- Pie charts and bar graphs to summarize, evaluate, and interpret information (in various blocks)

**Math Concepts with Computation Skills (corresponding to Math Skills Class)**

Given appropriate review and practice, students will show mastery of the four processes (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. Additional topics and skills introduced or reviewed and deepened are:

- Review and deepening of all sixth grade computation skills
- Exponents and Roots

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- Perfect squares and estimating square roots
- Exponential and Scientific notations
- Review and interpret mean, median, mode, and range
- Measurement (deepening of the U.S. and metric systems, and conversions within each system separately)
- Ratios! Whole number and decimal form; reciprocals of ratios; direct and inverse proportionality; proportion of the whole; similar figures; ratio in a square (opt.); ratio in a circle ( $\pi$ )
- Rational and irrational numbers
- Percents, including percent increase and decrease; finding the base is introduced; compound interest deepened, create pie graphs and bar graphs as application
- Rates, including distance/time/speed problems, word problems, and rate of pay
- Area: review rectangles and right triangles; introduce parallelograms, non-right triangles, and trapezoids; the Shear and Stretch
- Pythagorean Theorem (visual proofs, Pythagorean triples, and calculating missing sides of triangles)
- Angle theorems
- Algebra: formulas; order of operations (PEMDAS); negative numbers; represent patterns in algebraic language; simplifying expressions; solving simple equations and inequalities; practical applications and word problems (practiced in skill class after introduction in Main Lesson)
- Practice of new concepts and skills introduced in Main Lesson
- (optional) Puzzle problems
- (optional) Mental math & math tricks
- (optional) Square root algorithm
- (optional) Deepening algebra toward Algebra I in eighth grade (taught as a separate class)

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**MUSIC SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

Overview: This is the year of discovery and maturing. Special care needs to be placed on working with the changing voices (boys and girls). Healthy vocal practice is very important and some individual work with students can help. Seventh grade has music class once a week, choir twice a week and orchestra twice a week.

Objectives:

- Introduction of duets and simple arias (eg The Magic Flute, Monteverdi, Purcell, Mendelssohn and Brahms)
  
- World music related to the geography main lesson
  
- Recorder music in four parts, especially Renaissance pieces
  
- Ensemble work with Orff instruments
  
- Music from the Baroque and Classical period are brought in for voice, strings and recorder
  
- Continue study of intervals with emphasis on the chromatic scale
  
- Bass clef is reviewed and studied
  
- Rhythmic improvisation expanded and spoken text pieces
  
- Biographies of important composers brought. Reports from students can be done in conjunction with the class teacher's work on the Renaissance.
  
- 2-4 part choral singing, mostly a cappella

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**STRINGS SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

Objectives

- Scales: G, D, A, E, F & Bb Major, A & D minor- 1 & 2 octaves. Some students may play 3 octave scales.
- Students can read Level 2, 3 and sometimes 4, string orchestra music (usually from J.W. Pepper.com)
- Continue ensemble playing skills.
- Full-String orchestra arrangements including a double bass section - may include percussion occasionally.
- Pieces may have simple or complex harmonies.
- Students are given the opportunity to learn about reading a score and conducting.

Repertoire:

- May include pieces about Africa (Call of the Drums) , South America, pieces that have a Geometric or number scheme, music inspired by the heavenly bodies (Holst Planets arrangement)
- Music from the Renaissance, African-American folk tunes, Patriotic themes, Revolution or Music with bold themes and many dynamic contrasts, Music with a variety of meter, Music from the class plays (A midsummer Night's Dream - Mendelssohn arrangement)
- Eighth grade project, Orchestra Compositions or other student compositions: May include a good arrangement of a pop tune for an encore piece (Pirates of the Caribbean selections, Linus & Lucy-Guarardi)
- A variety of short chamber music pieces for small ensembles.
- Classes are mostly with all students but we also have sectionals, especially when preparing for playing tests.
- Students have playing tests, usually 4per year, which are usually short excerpts from the music we are learning.
  - Students are required to get help preparing from the private lesson teacher over a 3 week period and then they play the test with their stand partner.
  - Students either pass or they are asked to continue preparing the excerpt and play it again at another time in the near future.

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**HANDWORK SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

The students draw an elephant and make a pattern out of their drawings. They construct a three-dimensional soft fiber sculpture. The elephant should be captured during walking to give it a natural appearance. They will make a herd of African elephants. This will go along with main lessons when they study Africa.

In the second part of the school year the students learn needle felting. They will first felt a bird and then move on to a mammal of their choice.

Other projects include felting a hand puppet. Together with the teacher they choose a fairy tale, and when the puppets are completed at the end of the year, they put on a puppet show for the younger grades.

Seasonal projects include needle felting a Christmas ornament.

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**WOODWORKING SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

Seventh grade is the year the children learn physics, the basic laws of mechanics and simple machines. In conjunction to that, in woodworking they spend the year creating marionettes complete with moving joints by using all the tools available to them in the workshop. Those who finished early will make other moving toys.



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**SPANISH SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

**Overview:** The seventh and eighth grades curriculum includes cultural studies. Geography, history, literature, and poetry are appropriate for this age.

***Topics and Content***

- Courtesy, phrases, greetings, goodbye
- Numbers: 1-100.000
- Human body
- Colors
- Clothing
- Musical Instruments
- Food
- School (beginning with classroom objects)
- The home and its parts
- The family
- Occupations and professions
- The seasons
- Months, days
- The date
- Telling time
- Personal information
- Likes and preferences
- Daily routines
- Nature and the environment
- Means of transportation
- Latin America geography

- Pre-Columbian cultures (Mayas, Aztecas, Incas)

***Celebrations***

- Columbus' Day/Día de la Raza
- Día de los muertos/Día de todos los santos
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas
- Día de los Reyes Magos (6 de enero)
- Día de San Valentín
- Semana Santa y las Pascuas (Easter)
- Día del libro

***Biographies***

- Painters and artist, including Frida Kalho, Diego Rivera, Fernando Botero, Diego Velazquez.
- Musicians (various)
- Writers, including Miguel Cervantez, Garcia Marquez, Laura Esquivel.
- Poets, including José Marti, Pablo Neruda.

***Grammar Topics***

1= introduction

2= practice & application

3= review & mastery

Articles ( 3 )

Formation and use of contractions: al and del ( 3 )

Nouns:

- Gender ( 3 )
- Number ( 3 )
- Formation and use of contractions: al and del ( 3 )

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Adjectives:

- Adjectives of quality ( 3 )
- Demonstrative adjectives ( 1 )
- Possessive adjectives ( 2 )
- Numbers ( 3 )
- Comparatives and superlatives ( 1 )
- Agreement in gender and number with article and nouns, positions of adjectives ( 3 )

Pronouns:

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- Subject ( 3 )
- Personal ( 2 )
- Direct object ( 1 )
- Indirect object ( 1 )
- Prepositional pronouns ( 1 )

Verbs:

- Regular, present tense (3)
- Irregular and stem changing, present tense: *ser, tener* , *ir, querer, poder, salir, dormir, empezar, venir.* ( 2 )
- *Gustar* (and similar verbs) ( 1 )
- Near future (*ir + a + infinitivo*)
- Obligations ( *tener + que + infinitivo* )

Conjunctions:

- *y, con, pero, que*

Prepositions:

- *a, para, por, en, sin, de, hasta* ( 2 )

Interrogatives:

- *Qué, cómo, quien, dónde, adónde, de donde, cuánto, cuál, por qué, cuando.* ( 2 )

**Methods**

***Little Emphasis (1)***

***Emphasis (2)***

***Great Emphasis (3)***

Poetry and recitations ( 2 )

Songs ( 2 )

Speech exercises ( 2 )

Commands and orders ( 2 )

Games (vocabulary and grammar) ( 3 )

Illustrated vocabulary ( 2 )

Prose (reading) ( 3 )

Prose (writing) ( 2 )

Autobiographies (writing) ( 3 )

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Literary passages ( 1 )

Conversations and dialogues ( 3 )

Partner conversations ( 3 )

Grammar and vocabulary exercises (workbook and handouts) ( 3 )