



6th GRADE

**Course Selection Guide
2021-2022**

INTRODUCTION

The Mapleton Middle School Course Selection Guide outlines the courses available to our students. Information is also provided to assist students and their parents with future planning. We hope you find this document helpful as you consider your student's scheduling options. Please contact the school counselor, administrators, or teachers at any time throughout the registration process for assistance.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy regarding the course information provided before the Course Selection Guide is printed. Since the Guide is printed so early for scheduling purposes, some changes in course offerings may occur.

COURSE OFFERINGS 2021-2022

GRADE 6 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All 6th grade students will take the following required courses:

- English Language Arts (ELA Lab* may also be required)
- Social Studies
- Science
- Math (Math Lab** may also be required)
- Success
- Physical Education (9 weeks)
- Art (9 weeks)
- Computer 6 (9 weeks)
- Flight & Space (9 weeks)
- General Music (9 weeks)
- Fantasy and Imagination (9 weeks)
- Public Speaking (9 weeks)
- Combination of Mystery and Suspense, Successful Soil Design, and Drink Tumbler Reform

***ELA LAB**

This course provides support and intervention for students in English Language Arts. It is specifically designed for students who may need the opportunity to work in smaller groups or who need additional remediation and support when learning new English Language Arts concepts. Students will be scheduled into this course based on teacher recommendations and assessment data or parent request.

****MATH LAB**

This course provides support and intervention for students in Math. It is specifically designed for students who may need the opportunity to work in smaller groups or who need additional

remediation and support when learning new math concepts. Students will be scheduled into this course based on teacher recommendations and assessment data or parent request.

SUCCESS

Course Length: Year

For the duration of this course, students will work directly with the 6th grade core content teachers to build a strong foundation of skills that will benefit them throughout middle school and beyond. Academic enrichment activities will be provided to all students to help ensure success in all classes. The Botvin LifeSkills Training program, a substance abuse and violence prevention program, will also be utilized throughout the year. As part of this program, students will learn about setting goals, making decisions, keeping friends, staying calm, and communicating with others.

FLIGHT AND SPACE

Course Length: 9 Weeks

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) courses at the middle school will engage students in activities that not only build knowledge and skills in areas including computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, but also empower students to develop essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance.

In this course, the exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel.

GENERAL MUSIC

Course Length: 9 Weeks

The major emphasis of this course is to provide students with a variety of musical experiences and activities that are both enjoyable and educational.

CODING

Course Length: 9 Weeks

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) courses at the middle school will engage students in activities that not only build knowledge and skills in areas including computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, but also empower students to develop essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance.

This course exposes students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

Digital citizenship will also be a focus of this course, helping students develop the skills and knowledge to effectively use the Internet and other digital technology. The safe, responsible, and legal use of technology will also be emphasized.

SUCCESSFUL SOIL DESIGN

Course Length: 9 weeks

In this hands-on science elective class, students are given the opportunity to explore a real-world task by answering the following question: How can we create a topsoil design that will most successfully grow plants? Students will work in teams of three to design a successful topsoil. The goal is to find the best ingredients and recipe to grow the best plants (most fastest growing and healthy specimens) and record the best measurements from a soil analyzer.

INSULATED DRINK TUMBLER REFORM

Course Length: 9 weeks

In this hands-on science elective class, students are given the opportunity to explore a real-world task by answering the following question: How can we redesign the Yeti drink tumbler so that it does not include metal, vacuum technology, and Styrofoam as an insulator? Students will be working in a team of three to design the Yeti drink tumbler. The goal is to keep ice from melting for 1 hour in the redesigned tumbler. Students will use a combination of alternative insulators and various tumbler-building supplies. We will examine designs for elements of successful heat preservation drink tumblers. Ultimately, we will find the design that works the best, putting the best designs from the class into a competition against one another.

FANTASY & IMAGINATION

Course Length: 9 weeks

Whether you're a Harry Potter fanatic or a want to be fan, this class is for you! We will learn all about this pop-culture phenomenon regarding "The Boy Who Lived"! We will read, discuss, and view the first in the Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, as well as jump onto Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ to experience life in the "Wizarding World".

MYSTERY & SUSPENSE

Course Length: 9 weeks

What makes a reader hang on to the edge of their seat? How do writers and directors build suspense? What are the literary components of the mystery genre, and what do mysteries tell us about our culture? In this course, students will study elements of mystery and suspense through literature and a variety of other sources. Students will examine the story elements and vocabulary that are characteristics of the mystery genre.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SPEAKING

Course Length: 9 weeks

This course introduces students to the basic elements of good public speaking and is designed to instill a sense of confidence as they communicate orally with others. Students are introduced to public speaking as an important component of their academic, work, and social lives. We will study speeches in order to develop skills as fair and critical listeners. Students will study types of speeches, read and listen to models of great speeches, and present their own variety of speeches.

6th Grade Electives ---

Note: Electives are subject to availability. Some courses may not be offered or available to all students depending on factors such as course demand, available space in a student's schedule, or the overall curricular needs of the school.

6th GRADE BAND

Course Length: Year

The primary goal of the Mapleton Middle School band is to provide young people with an experience in instrumental music that is both enjoyable and educational. Students will participate in a variety of instrumental performances throughout the year. Participation in the middle school band program prepares students to be members of the high school marching, concert, and pep bands.

SCIENCE FAIR 6

Course Length: Semester

It is the goal of the Mapleton Middle School Science Department to help students have a successful and rewarding Science Fair experience. During the 2nd and 3rd 9 weeks of the school year, with the support of structured time and teacher availability, students will be investigating answers to scientific questions that are important to them. These scientific questions will be guided to be real world questions with real world applications, similar to what scientists do in their careers. Students will be doing inquiry-based science projects that will foster enthusiasm for science while also improving knowledge and skills.

Students will gain background information by completing internet research. They will formulate a hypothesis and design their experimental procedures. After writing a report to summarize this background information, each student will perform an experiment, draw conclusions, and communicate the results to teachers and classmates.

Through time management and project planning, students will take on the responsibility of completing a Science Fair project. They will be encouraged to present this project at the local and district science fairs. If students earn superior ratings at the local and district levels, they will qualify for the State Level Science Fair.

Science Fair has become a staple of the Ohio Department of Education Science Standards in our classrooms. This class is an amazing opportunity offered as a more stress free and supported elective class. We hope you will consider joining us for what has become a very successful representation of our Mapleton Middle School Science Department.