

6th Grade Elective Classes

Elective classes explore the practical and theoretical aspects of various disciplines and help students to realize their own unique interests and potential. There are no prerequisites so sixth grade students are encouraged to explore a variety of six-week classes. (Information Skills is a required class for all sixth graders.)

Art

In this six-week class, students survey the basic artistic elements of drawing, painting, and color theory. Students learn to communicate at a basic level in two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. Through hands-on work and study, they design and produce basic analyses of works of art. Students gain an acquaintance with exemplary works of art from a variety of cultures and historical periods.

Art II

This six-week class is a continuation of study into two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. This class is designed for students who enjoy art and want to enhance their skills with a community of similarly interested artists. Through hands-on projects, students learn to use various painting and drawing media and acquire the skills necessary to create works of their own. Students complete several projects, which emphasize understanding and applying the specific design elements of line, shape, space, color, and value. Students also produce several projects in clay and sculpture where they learn about form, function, and construction techniques. Format use and color theory are linked with art history elements. Students learn about the cultural impact upon art elements and the development of art forms.

Artistic Productions

This six-week class offers an exploration of art in varying cultures. Students will explore cultures of the past and present, and experiment with hieroglyphics, illuminations, mask making and various printmaking techniques.

Band

This yearlong class is designed to develop skills in instrumental playing, as well as increase musical understanding through performance. The main emphasis at this level is on skill development. Students enrolling in this class should have one year of playing experience through school classes or private lessons. Band students may also sign up for choir; if taking both band and choir, students attend band and choir on an alternating daily schedule.

Choir

Choir is a year-long performance group, open to all students, devoted to the study and performance of music from a wide spectrum of styles including secular, sacred, Broadway, and classical. The class includes an introduction to fundamental singing techniques (sight-reading and rhythm work). Most of the time will be spent singing; there will also be written work and quizzes.

Family & Consumer Science

Healthy eating and nutrition are taught with a hands-on emphasis in this six-week class. Students learn basic cooking skills and how to make healthy food choices by preparing and eating healthy recipes. Managing money, making financial decisions, and career exploration are also taught.

Information Skills I & II

Info skills I is a required six-week class. The goal of Basic Information Skills is to empower students with the skills needed to become more productive, efficient, and critical users of research tools and information. Students will learn how to locate, evaluate, and ethically use information. As a final project, they will create digital presentations of their research. In Info Skills II, students will continue to develop these skills through a research topic of their choice.

International Awareness

This six-week class is designed for students to become globally aware and gain appreciation for diverse cultures of the world. Students will be introduced to basic phrases in many different world languages, discuss current events, and participate in international issues and projects. Students will gain an understanding of how the world is increasingly interconnected due to technology, international trade, travel and career opportunities. Students will acquire skills that will enable them to become active and informed global citizens.

Orchestra

This yearlong class is designed to develop skills in instrumental playing, as well as increase musical understanding through performance. The main emphasis at this level is on skill development. Students enrolling in this class should have one year of playing experience through school classes or private lessons. Orchestra students may also sign up for choir; if taking both orchestra and choir, students attend orchestra and choir on an alternating daily schedule.

Performance Art

This six-week class offers an introduction to various aspects of performance art. Students will explore storytelling, pantomime, improvisation, and monologue performances. The term ends with students performing a “Live” radio show in the classroom, providing the sounds for dramatic and comedic scripts. This is an interactive class and allows students to “find their voice.”

Reading/Writing Workshop

This six-week class is geared toward students who enjoy reading and writing, and want to increase reading comprehension, hone their writing skills and promote the appreciation of literature with a community of similarly interested students. Students will explore various genres of fiction and understand how literary elements contribute to the quality of writing.

Through a focus on poetry, short stories, and independent reading selections, students read, study, and share their knowledge about literature.

Technology Education

Humans invent and create technology to modify their environment, solve problems, and fulfill our wants and needs. In this six-week class, students are introduced to technology education and use computers, video equipment, power tools, and other instruments to invent, design, and solve problems. Students study the process of design with a focus on application to everyday lives, the environment, and the future.

Tech Ed Challenge

This course involves the history, application and potential for technology. Students will learn through cross-curriculum, multi-cultural instruction. Students will be involved with various projects that demonstrate principles of technology.

World Language

Six-week beginning level classes are offered in French, German, and Spanish. Students may select one, two, or three languages to study. In an interactive setting, students study the culture, geography, history, vocabulary, and traditions of people around the world. Students participate in games, songs, skits, stories, and cultural celebrations with a focus on oral communications. By selecting all three languages, students are able to best determine which language they wish to continue studying in seventh and eighth grades.

World Music

This is an active six-week music class open to all students, exploring the cultures of the world through music. Students play drums, percussion instruments, listen, read, and compose music through the study of Africa, Latin America, Asia, Europe, and Native America.