

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Seventh Grade Curriculum Overview



Religion

The 7th grade religion curriculum is centered on the life of Christ. We will study Jesus' life through the Scriptures and the textbook, seeking to develop our relationship with Him.

- Our Relationship with God
 - He has created us for Himself and desires a relationship with us
 - He reveals Himself through the two founts of Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture
 - The Blessed Trinity
- The New Testament
 - Origin of the Sacred Scriptures
 - Divine and human authorship
 - Canon of Books
 - Life of Christ
 - Study of the Gospels with the Mysteries of the Rosary, and use of the textbook
 - The mystery of Jesus as Son of God, fully God and fully man
 - The mystery of our Redemption in Christ, drawn into the life of the Blessed Trinity
- The Creed—a focus on the twelve main points of the Apostles' Creed
- The Sacraments
 - Our ever deepening participation in the Paschal Mystery
 - Baptism—our life as children of the Father
 - (Confirmation will be covered in 8th grade, brief treatment given this year)
 - Eucharist—fed by the living Body and Blood of Christ, drawn into the union of Heaven and Earth in the sacred Liturgy of the Mass
 - Penance and the Anointing of the Sick—sacraments of healing, sought out by the Good Shepherd
 - Holy Orders and Matrimony
- Prayer—daily practice of prayer, that we may draw closer to Christ
 - *Lectio Divina*—prayerful reading of

Sacred Scripture

- Adoration

- Theology of the Body—more specifics will be sent out about a month before this is covered 3rd trimester

Science

In 7th grade, the science curriculum is focused on life science, as well as general study of the scientific method through conducting experiments and learning to write lab reports.

- Scientific method
 - Conduct experiments
 - Learn to write lab reports
- Life Structure and Function
 - Classifying and Exploring Life—characteristics of life and classification tools including binomial nomenclature and dichotomous keys
 - Cell Structure and Function (both animal and plant)
 - Structure of Multi-Cellular Organisms
 - Reproduction of Organisms
 - Genetics
- From Bacteria to Plants
 - Bacteria and Viruses
 - Protists and Fungi
 - Plant Diversity
- Animals
 - Animal Diversity
- Human Body Systems

Social Studies

Pre-chapter work: organization of text, primary sources

Roots of American History

- Geography, History and the Social Sciences
- Before The First Global Age
- Exploration and Colonization
- The Thirteen English Colonies

The Revolutionary Era

- Crisis in the Colonies
- The American Revolution
- Creating a Republic, The Constitution of the United States

- Government, Citizenship, and the Constitution

The Early Republic

- Launching the New Government
- The Age of Jefferson
- The Nation Grows and Prospers
- An Era of Expansion
- Westward Expansion
- North and South
- Reform and a New American Culture

Midway through the year the class studies the Constitution in depth. The United States and Illinois Constitutions require about four weeks.

The seventh grade class devotes one class period a week to examining current events.

Language Arts

Grade 7 **Reading** Standards

Key ideas and details:

1. Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what text says as well as draw inferences from text.
2. Determine a moral theme or central idea and analyze the development and summarize text objectively.
3. Analyze how elements of a story interact.

Craft and structure:

1. Determine meaning of words and phrases used in literary and Biblical texts.
2. Analyze how repetitions of sounds impact sections of literature and poetry.
3. Analyze how the structure of literature forms contributes to the meaning.
4. Analyze how an author develops point of view of different characters.

Integration of knowledge and ideas:

1. Compare and contrast written works, including Catholic literature, to audio, video, or multimedia versions and analyze the visual effects and techniques.

2. Compare and contrast a fictional setting or character with a historical account to understand how an author uses fiction to alter history.

Range of reading and level of text complexity:

1. By the end of the year, read, comprehend, and show an appreciation of literature appropriately complex for the individual student.

Grade 7 **Informational** text:

Key ideas and details:

1. Cite several pieces of textual evidence and draw inferences from text.
2. Determine two or more central ideas.
3. Analyze interactions between individuals, events and ideas in text.

Craft and structure:

1. Determine meaning of words used in text and analyze impact of word choice.
2. Analyze author's structure of organization.
3. Determine author's point of view or purpose and how that differs from others.

Integration of knowledge and ideas:

1. Compare and contrast a text to audio, video, or multimedia version and analyze each portrayal of the subject.
2. Trace and evaluate specific claims and ideas in text and determine if evidence is supported.
3. Analyze how two or more authors include key information on the same topic and emphasize different evidence or interpretations.

Range of reading and level of text complexity:

1. By year end, read and comprehend literary nonfiction and informational text appropriately complex for the individual student.

Grade 7 **Writing**:

1. Write arguments to support claims with evidence while maintaining Catholic identity.

2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic.
 3. Write narratives to develop events using techniques, details, and sequence of events.
 4. Produce clear writing with development and organization.
 5. Justify writing according to Catholic teachings.
 6. Use technology to produce and publish writing with sources cited.
 7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question.
 8. Gather information from multiple sources, paraphrase and document to eliminate plagiarism.
 9. Draw evidence from text to support analysis and research.
 10. Write routinely over longer and shorter time frames for specific tasks, purposes and audiences.
3. Present information clearly and precisely with appropriate eye contact, volume and pronunciation.
 4. Include multimedia and visual displays in presentations.
 5. Use opportunities to practice skills within a liturgical context.

Grade 7 **Language:**

1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar when writing or speaking.
2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
3. Use knowledge of language where precise and concise words are chosen.
4. Determine meaning of words using context clues, root words, prefixes and suffixes.
5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language and word meanings.
6. Acquire grade appropriate academic and specific words.

Grade 7 **Speaking and Listening:**

1. Engage in a range of discussions to express opinions and acquire knowledge.
2. Analyze main ideas and supporting details through diverse media formats.

