

RELIGION



Religious instruction in eighth grade is based on the material, *Voyages: Exploring God's Word* released by Concordia Publishing House. Content of

this curriculum centers on Old Testament history dealing with creation, the flood, the Children of Israel, the Judges, the Kings, and the Prophets. Tuesday, Thursday & Friday – students will have a Religion class with the homeroom Teacher. Wednesday offers a chapel service during the religion time. The eighth grade class is responsible for leading the chapel service at least twice per year. A great deal of emphasis is placed upon Biblical understanding and application to the student's daily life. Guest speakers are invited to discuss topics on sex and marriage, drugs and alcohol, teen relationships, leadership and responsibility, and morality. One aspect of this part of the curriculum is that all eighth graders will take a "computer baby" home for feeding and care. The computer monitors the attention it received. Discussion follows after printouts are obtained.

Memory

Memory selections from the catechism, hymnal, or scripture are learned three times per week.

Confirmation (A program designed to help students live their life of faith)

Students will experience a Christ Care type of group with a pastor on Monday mornings, which focus on current topics, leadership development as well as mutual encouragement, support and prayer.

In additions, students are invited to attend a series of eight weekend retreats. (September - May) Each retreat will deal with a specific topic and will also model for and assist youth in developing a regular prayer, devotion and worship life. Upon completion students will be equipped to taken on the responsibility of growing in their faith.

MATH

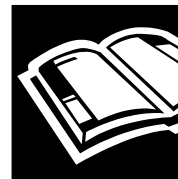
Eighth grade algebra includes variable usage, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division in algebra, linear equations, slopes and lines, exponents and powers, quadratics and square roots, polynomials, factoring, functions, and linear systems. Graphing calculators will be used extensively throughout the year. Graphing, problem solving, estimation, spreadsheets, statistics, and probability will be taught.



LANGUAGE ARTS

Literature

Critical reading and creative response to literature are key aspects of the literature program. Literary selections are approached from five directions: 1) by annotating and marking up the text, 2) by analyzing the story connections in the literature, 3) by examining authors' perspectives, 4) by studying the language and craft of the writer, and 5) by focusing closely on all aspects of a single writer's work. Short stories, drama, nonfiction, poetry, and novels are studied.



English

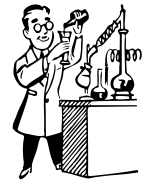
The writing process, forms of writing, tools for learning, proofreading, grammar, usage, and punctuation are taught. Forms of writing include speeches, short stories, poetry, informational articles, summaries, critical essays, and personal experience essays.

Spelling

Spelling includes review of basic patterns and rules, prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Use of reference materials is reviewed.

SCIENCE

Students in eighth grade will experience topics in astronomy, ecology, forces and machines, geology, genetics, and energy resource use. This is a "hands-on" curriculum with labs 4-5 times per week. Science record books are kept, logging real data obtained and analyzing results. The scientific method is practiced daily in activities. A scientific collection of 25 specimens is required in the first quarter. Registration in a program of competitive science called Science Olympiad happens each year. A variety of field trips enhance the science curriculum.

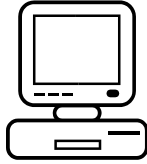


SOCIAL STUDIES

Eighth grade students study American History from the early Colonial Period through the Reconstruction Period. Special emphasis is placed on the creation and structure of the U.S. Constitution and our Federal system of government. Concepts including: citizenship, democracy, due process, immigration, and assimilation are explored in depth. Students are encouraged to discover their roles as citizens at both a local and national level.

TECHNOLOGY

Students develop keyboarding skills, research skills, and media presentation in our computer lab. They will use Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Inspiration, and other programs as tools to enhance their learning and communication. Graphing calculators, CBL's, CBR's, and many different probes increase math and science learning.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Using various team, individual and dual sports as units of instructions, a number of things can be taught. The rules of the game are taught not only for those looking to play at a higher level but also for those who choose to watch and enjoy the game as spectators. An understanding of offense and defense is learned. Social and personal skills, cooperation and leadership, integrity, respect, self-discipline, decision making and performance standards are developed. They will also participate in the Presidential Fitness Program.

ART

Art, as a formal subject, is taught each Friday afternoon. Students concentrate on a specific area each month.



Numerous genres are covered including drawing (various medium), photography, sculpture, calligraphy, design and composition, watercolor, and others. Students are evaluated on cooperation, effort, and outcome.

MUSIC

Choir- The main goal of the choir is to give glory to God through singing. Choir provides experiences in note reading and vocal techniques. A regular schedule of events such as singing for worship services, school concerts, and other special events are provided. The optional choir is a performing group and regular participation is expected.



Band- Two levels of optional band instruction are provided for students: 5th grade beginning band and 6th-8th grade advanced band. Instruction takes place during the school day. The bands participate on a regular basis for school concerts and other special events.

Hand bells- Students in grades 5-8 have the opportunity to participate in an optional hand bell choir. The students will read music, practice proper hand bell techniques, and perform in variety of settings including worship services and school concerts.

Music Appreciation- Students learn about composers, their lives, and works. Students develop an appreciation for a wide range of musical styles

Trinity Lutheran School

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8th Grade Curriculum



Our Mission Statement:

Trinity Lutheran School partners with students and families to live and mature in the Christian faith while providing educational excellence.