



What every SIXTH GRADE student should know and be able to do!

A Message To The Reader

This resource is provided by Mesa Public Schools. It contains the sixth grade expectations for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The goal for Mesa Public Schools is to help all students be successful and ready to move forward to the next grade level.

These skills and expectations are aligned to the Arizona Standards and our district adopted curriculum. Each standard builds on the standard that came before and toward the standard that comes in the next grade level.

For additional information on grade-level readiness, please visit the National Parent Teacher Association, <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/uploadedfiles/6th-grade-june20>

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The goal of MPS is for every child to be successful and independent as he/she reads, writes, speaks, listens, and uses language. Recognizing the importance of reading practice, it is necessary to read to your child, read with your child, and encourage your child to read independently every day. It is equally important to support your child as he/she expresses ideas in writing.

Students should know and be able to ...

Literature (fiction)

- cite evidence from the text to support analysis of what the text says as well as inferences drawn from text
- determine a theme or central idea of text using details
- summarize the text without personal opinions/judgments
- describe how a plot unfolds and how the characters respond or change
- determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text
- analyze the structure of a text and explain how it contributes to the development of ideas or themes
- explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text
- compare/contrast the experience of reading, listening to or viewing different versions of the text
- compare/contrast similar themes and topics in different text

Informational Text (nonfiction)

- cite evidence from the text to support analysis of the text
- determine a central idea of a text using details
- provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments
- analyze in detail how a key individual event or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text
- determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text
- analyze the overall structure of a text and how it contributes to the development of the ideas
- determine and explain an author's point of view or purpose
- integrate information presented from different media or formats
- evaluate the author's use of evidence and its credibility in supporting the author's claim
- compare/contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another

Writing

- write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources
- compose informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and clearly convey ideas, concepts, and information
- write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences
- produce clear and coherent writing

Writing - *continued*

- use technology and digital resources to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others
- conduct short research projects, drawing on several sources
- gather relevant information from multiple, credible sources
- draw evidence from literary and informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research
- write routinely over extended and shorter time frames for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences

Speaking and Listening

- come to discussions prepared and follow rules for collegial discussions
- pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion
- review and paraphrase the key ideas multiple perspectives of a speaker
- interpret information presented in diverse media and formats
- evaluate a speaker's argument and claims based on evidence
- present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically
- use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation
- include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify information
- adapt speech to a variety of context and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate

Language

- ensure that pronouns are in the proper case
- use appropriate capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing
- vary sentence patterns
- maintain consistency in style and tone
- use common, grade-appropriate Greek and Latin prefixes, suffixes, and roots as clues to the meaning of a word
- use reference materials including print and digital to verify the meaning of a word or phrase
- interpret figures of speech in context
- use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words

MATH

The goal of MPS is for every child to be successful in developing the concepts and understanding of mathematics and to recognize the connections between mathematics and everyday life. Students should know and be able to ...

Ratios & Proportional Relationships

- understand the concept of ratio as a relationship between two quantities
- understand the concept of unit rate
- use ratio and rate to solve real-world and mathematical problems
- find a percentage of a quantity as a rate

The Number System

- fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit numbers.
- find the greatest common factor and least common multiple of two-whole numbers
- solve word problems involving division of fractions
- understand positive and negative numbers
- understand ordering and absolute value of rational numbers
- solve real-world and mathematical problems by graphing points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane

Expressions and Equations

- identify and generate equivalent expressions
- write, read, and evaluate expressions involving exponents, where letters stand for numbers
- identify and write inequalities to solve real-world problems

Geometry

- draw polygons in a coordinate plane
- find the area of triangles, special quadrilaterals, and polygons of 2-dimensional shapes
- find the volume of a right rectangular prism using fractions
- represent 3-dimensional figures using nets
- use geometry to solve real world and mathematical problems

Statistics and Probability

- display data on a number line, dot plots, histograms, and box plots
- summarize and recognize numerical data sets
- recognize a statistical question
- use measures of center (mean, median, and mode) and range, to describe a data set in a single number

Mathematical Practices

- apply the eight Standards for Mathematical Practice such as problem solving, modeling, and logical reasoning to solve math problems

SCIENCE

Students should know and be able to ...

Inquiry Process

- differentiate among a question, hypothesis, and prediction
- formulate questions based on observations
- locate and use background research
- design and conduct controlled investigations testing individual variables
- record, analyze, evaluate, and interpret data
- create and display procedures and data
- formally communicate results and conclusions

History and Nature of Science

- describe history of science as a human endeavor including diversity of people and science-related careers
- analyze the impact of a major scientific development within the past decade
- describe the use of technology in science-related careers
- describe how science is an ongoing process and scientific knowledge is subject to change
- apply the scientific process to other problem solving or decision making situations

Personal and Social Perspectives

- evaluate the effects of natural hazards and how people respond to them
- propose viable methods of responding to an identified need or problem
- compare possible solutions to a problem
- design and construct a solution to an identified need
- describe a technological discovery that influences science

Life Science

- describe the basic structure and function of a cell
- differentiate between plant and animal cells
- relate structures of living organisms to their function
- describe how systems of living organisms work together
- explain that sunlight is the major source of energy for most ecosystems

Physical Science

- identify various ways electrical energy is generated using renewable and nonrenewable resources
- identify ways energy can be stored and transformed
- explains how thermal energy can be transferred

Earth and Space Science

- describe the layers of the atmosphere
- explain the composition of Earth's lakes, rivers, and oceans
- analyze the interaction between the Earth's atmosphere and bodies of water
- describe ways scientists explore the Earth's atmosphere and bodies of water
- explain the water cycle and distribution of water
- analyze the effect of bodies of water on the climate
- analyze factors affecting climate and the impact of large scale weather systems
- create a weather system model

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students should know and be able to ...

American History (**These skills are repeated in World History.*)

- *interpret historical data and construct timelines**
- *describes difference between and determine credibility and bias of primary/secondary sources**
- *discuss and identify connections between current & historical events/issues studied**
- *formulate questions and analyze cause and effect relationships about historical events**
- *describe how archaeological research helps us understand the past**
- describe early cultures of the Americans

World History

- describe the development, government, religious traditions, cultural and scientific contributions/ advancements, and roles/contributions of identified people of ancient civilizations
- describe aspects of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- describe Medieval kingdoms, Arab empire, role of the Catholic Church, and transition from feudalism to nationalism in regards to the Middle Ages
- describe how trade routes led to the exchange of ideas during the 15th and 16th centuries
- describe accomplishments/contributions made during the Renaissance and Reformation period

World History - *continued*

- describe how the Enlightenment period fostered changes in society and creation of U.S. government

Civics/Government

- describe the impact of Laws of Hammurabi, Roman republic, and Greek democracy on past/current societies
- describe the responsibilities of citizenship
- describe structure of governments past and present

Geography

- identify purpose, interpret, construct, and locate physical/human features on maps, charts, globes, graphs, etc.
- identify regions of the world, describing interactions of people, change factors, and physical characteristics
- identify/describe human/environmental interactions and how they are interdependent upon one another
- describe ways geographic features and conditions influenced settlement

Economics

- identify how people are forced to make choices based on scarcity, opportunity costs, and trade-offs
- explain how trade promotes economic growth
- explore personal finance