

# GRADE SEVEN EXPECTATIONS

## Reading and Language Arts

The seventh grade curriculum places an emphasis on the student's ability to independently apply strategies to critically read and recall new information gained from books. The complexity of the fiction and nonfiction reading material increases. Student writing focuses on using references to present an argument.

By the end of grade seven, your child will be expected to:

- Read well independently for pleasure and to learn new information. Students should be able to paraphrase (explain or write in his or her own words) what they have read.
- Ask and respond critically to questions before, during, and after reading.
- Use the structure (organization) of text, styles of writing, and graphics to build meaning independently.
- Use strategies to independently read unfamiliar text. Some strategies are summarization, problem solving, and making generalizations.
- Identify important information from text to answer questions about story elements and understand the author's purpose. Compare and contrast details from different literature.
- Participate in activities involving a variety of styles of literature (for example: historical fiction, fantasy/science fiction, and information books.)
- Use context clues and the dictionary to determine the meanings of unknown words, special language, or multiple meanings (many meanings of the same word.)
- Use other references such as the encyclopedia and almanac.
- Understand and use graphic organizers to take notes from reading materials.

- Learn new vocabulary by studying how to read, spell and write using root words such as unfriendly, prefixes such as bicycle and suffixes such as likeness.
- Write a 5 paragraph, well-developed and organized response to a prompt that takes a stand or supports a position. Write using a logical order of organization, details, and elaboration, with a minimum of 5 complete sentences in each paragraph. Write five paragraphs (minimum) about one subject using a logical order of organization and a minimum of 5 complete sentences in each paragraph.
- Prepare and deliver at least a 2-4 minute speech to inform or persuade.

## Mathematics

The grade seven curriculum places emphasis on the student's understanding of equivalent relationships among fractions, decimals, and percents. Students will demonstrate an understanding of geometry, measurement, graphing and operations with positive and negative numbers.

Grade seven students should, by the end of the school year:

- Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions and mixed numbers.
- Relate mixed numbers and improper fractions, such as  $2\frac{1}{3} = \frac{7}{3}$ .
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals through ten-thousandths.
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide positive and negative numbers.
- Find the percent of a whole number (10% of 200 = 20).
- Compare, order, and determine relationships among fractions, decimals, and percents.
- Measure length, weight, and volume in both metric and customary units and convert units within the system.
- Select and use appropriate tools to make accurate measurements (rulers, protractors, and scales).
- Identify, describe, compare, and classify plane and

solid geometric figures (squares, triangles, circles or cylinders, cones, pyramids and cubes).

- Determine the area and perimeter of two-dimensional figures such as squares, rectangles, parallelograms and triangles.
- Find the mean (average), median, and mode of a set of data.
- Locate, identify, and order numbers on a number line, scale and grid.
- Understand and use variables (i.e.  $n=26$ ) in expressions and equations to represent unknowns ( $14 + n = 40$ ).
- Interpret data from tables, graphs, and charts and make predictions based on patterns.
- Write equations for word problems.

## Science

Utilizing the seventh grade science curriculum, the students will be able to engage in Scientific Inquiry, Animal Classification, Heredity, Genetics, Ecosystems, Cells, and Organ Systems.

By the end of grade seven, the student will:

- Describe the similarities and differences in the appearance and behaviors of plants, birds, fish, insects and mammals (including humans).
- Describe characteristics that distinguish living from non-living things.
- Describe how animals, directly or indirectly, depend on plants to provide the food and energy they need in order to grow and survive.
- Explain the similarities and differences in cell division in somatic and germ cells.
- Describe the structure and function of the male and female human reproduction system, including the process of egg and sperm production.

## Science (Continued)

- Describe the basic structures of an animal cell, including nucleus, cytoplasm, mitochondria and cell membrane, and how they function to support life.
- Describe the structures of the human digestive, respiratory, and circulatory systems, and explain how they function to bring oxygen and nutrients to the cells and expel waste materials.
- Explain how the human muscular/skeletal system supports the body and allows movement.
- Describe how freezing, dehydration, pickling and irradiation prevent food spoilage caused by bacteria.
- Describe how abiotic factors such as temperature, water and sunlight affect plants ability to create their own food through photosynthesis.
- Explain how populations are affected by predator-prey relationships.
- Describe common food webs in different Connecticut ecosystems

## Social Studies

In seventh grade social studies, students will learn about the major themes of geography: places and regions, earth's physical systems, human settlement patterns, and how humans interact with their environment.

By the end of grade seven the student will:

- Describe human and natural characteristics of places and regions throughout the world and explain how they shape culture.
- Understand ways in which world regions are interconnected.
- Explain how culture affects the treatment of the environment.
- Understand how nature influences the formation and location of resources.
- Explain the formation, characteristics, and function of urban, suburban, and rural settlements.
- Use and explain essential features and functions of geographic models such as: maps, globes, and photographs.
- Explain the interactions of various cultures with their environment and the consequences of those interactions.
- Understand how people adapt to and alter the physical environment.
- Explain historical and current controversies about the use of resources.

To be considered for promotion to grade eight, students must demonstrate at least 80% mastery of Bridgeport Public Schools' Grade Seven Student Expectations for Learning in reading and math. Mastery will be assessed through portfolios and report card grades.

# STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING

*Bridgeport Public Schools*



***GRADE SEVEN***