

GRADE SIX EXPECTATIONS

Reading and Language Arts

The sixth grade curriculum places an emphasis on the student's ability to independently apply strategies to read and recall new information gained from books. The complexity of the fiction and nonfiction reading material increases. Increased clarity of communication through writing and speaking is an expectation. In sixth grade, students are expected to reach the language arts goals of the Connecticut Mastery Test.

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

- Read well independently for pleasure and to learn new information. Students should be able to paraphrase (explain 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 reading strategies to understand unfamiliar text (for example: predict, sequence, retell, summarize, classify, problem solve, describe, draw conclusions, make generalizations, note details and make inferences about what has been read.)
- Identify important story elements including the author's purpose to show an understanding and interpretation of literature.
- Participate in activities involving a variety of styles of literature (for example: adventure stories, realistic fiction, historical fiction, fantasy/science fiction, and information books.)
- Prepare and deliver at least a 2-3 minute

- Use context clues (hints from surrounding words) and the dictionary to understand the meaning of unknown words and words with more than one meaning.
- Use graphic organizers such as outlines and charts 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. Students should use context clues (hints from within the sentence) to determine meaning
- Write a well-developed and organized response to a prompt (write about a single subject or event). Write at least 5 paragraphs and a minimum of 3 handwritten pages (or equivalent).
- Write a minimum five-paragraph essay about one subject using a logical order of organization (it must make sense), detailed and specific language, and 4-5 complete sentences in each paragraph.

Mathematics

The grade six curriculum places emphasis on the student's understanding of ratio, proportion, percents, variables, expressions and linear equations. Students will compare, order and estimate the magnitude of fractions, mixed numbers, and decimals.

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

- Express numbers using exponents (5^2) or as powers of ten (10^3), and determine the square of a number or the square root of a perfect square ($\sqrt{25} = 5$).
- Use graphs and tables to represent and describe relations of ordered pairs (i.e. if $y=x+2$ then using a table list (0,2), (1,3), (2,4), (3,5)...).
- Estimate and then solve a two- step story problem involving whole numbers, money amounts, fractions, mixed numbers, or decimals.
- Identify, draw, and use diagrams and models to explore and apply the effects of moving a figure by turning it (rotations), flipping it (reflections), and sliding it (translations).

- Determine the circumference (distance around a circle) of a circle, given the radius or the diameter.
- Locate, identify, and compare and order integers on a number line.
- Locate and identify points on a number line or on a grid in all four quadrants.
- Use appropriate geometric language, including faces, vertices, and edges, to identify, compare, classify, draw, describe properties, and create models of three-dimensional figures.
- Write and solve an equation when given a simple addition, subtraction, multiplication or division word problem using a real world situation.

Science

Utilizing the sixth grade science curriculum, the students will be able to engage in Scientific Inquiry, Earth's Waters, Landforms, Sewage Systems, Heating of the Earth's Surface, and the Solar System.

By the end of grade six, the student will:

- Describe how the sun's energy drives the water cycle.
- Describe the role of water in erosion and river formation
- Describe how folded and faulted rock layers provide evidence of the gradual up and down motion of the Earth's crust.
- Explain how glaciation, weathering and erosion create and shape valleys and floodplains.
- Explain how the boundaries of tectonic plates can be inferred from the location of earthquakes and volcanoes.
- Explain the role of septic and sewage systems on the quality of surface and ground water sources.
- Explain how human activity may impact water resources in Connecticut such as local ponds, rivers and the Long Island Sound ecosystem.

Science (Continued)

- Describe the effect of heating on the movement of molecules in solids, liquids and gases.
- Explain how local weather conditions are related to the temperature, pressure and water content of the atmosphere and the proximity to a large body of water.
- Explain how the uneven heating of the Earth's surface causes winds and affects the seasons.
- Explain the effect of gravity on the orbital movement of planets in the solar system.
- Explain how the regular motion of the Sun, Earth and Moon explains the seasons, phases of the moon and eclipses.

Social Studies

The sixth grade social studies course engages students in the story of the development of civilization, and presents the geography, economy, government, and culture of the world's peoples, from the earliest times to the present.

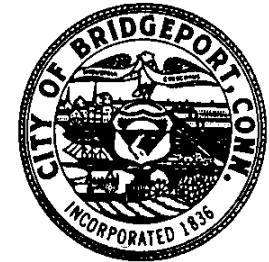
By the end of grade six the student will:

- Describe how the peoples of ancient Africa, Europe, Asia and the Americas made great contributions to world civilization.
- Know that people arrived in America and established a wide variety of cultures throughout North and South America.
- Describe how great changes in society occurred.
- Explain how better trade routes resulted in the Age of Discovery and Exploration.
- Describe how the Enlightenment, political revolutions and the Industrial Revolution changed the way people lived.
- Understand the impact of nationalism and imperialism on world events.
- Describe how economics and political leaders influenced events that led to World War II and post war policies.
- Explain the many significant changes affecting the economies, lifestyles, and political systems in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas.
- Explain how the recognition of human rights is affecting changes in world society.

To be considered for promotion to grade seven, students must demonstrate at least 80% mastery of Bridgeport Public Schools' Grade Six 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



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