



EIGHTH GRADE CURRICULUM

IN EIGHTH GRADE **LITERACY ESSENTIALS** our students will:

- write essays using the classical oration structure: thesis, proof, refutation, etc.
- use their outlining skills to organize their compositions
- be able to format essays using the Chicago/Turabian style
- continue to master English grammar by sentence diagramming and other exercises

IN EIGHTH GRADE **LITERATURE** our students will read or listen to:

- novels such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Robinson Crusoe*
- poems such as "Ozymandias" and "Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night"
- Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* and speeches by E.B. White and Rachel Carson
- short stories from Chekhov, Hawthorne, Tolstoy, and Dostoevsky

IN EIGHTH GRADE **HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY** our students will:

- read and hear about the major defining events of American history from 1877–2020
- study the physical and political geography of Europe and the Middle East
- understand the difference between violent and non-violent forms of activism
- examine the rise of totalitarian regimes in Germany, Russia, and Italy in the early twentieth century
- understand the causes and consequences of the major wars of the twentieth century

IN EIGHTH GRADE **LATIN II** our students will:

- translate Latin stories such as "The Judgment of Paris" and "The Labors of Hercules"
- study the passive voice in pluperfect, perfect, and future tenses
- Complete Wheelock's Latin chapters 18–27

IN EIGHTH GRADE **ALGEBRA I** our students will:

- study and apply the laws of algebra and conditional equations
- understand fundamental operations with polynomials
- solve word problems involving systems of equations
- solve quadratic equations using the quadratic formula

IN EIGHTH GRADE **CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS** our students will:

- understand the laws of motion and the concepts of force, work, energy, and power
- know the basic terms and concepts of electricity
- conduct experiments involving connections between electricity and magnetism
- study the electromagnetic spectrum, refraction, and reflection

IN EIGHTH GRADE **ART** our students will:

- understand and apply the six main composition rules of photography
- study the great works of art and architecture of the twentieth century
- create their own painting in watercolor and acrylic paints using two-point perspective

IN EIGHTH GRADE **MUSIC** our students will:

- become familiar with instruments and works of music from non-Western cultures
- study American musical theater including the works of Ziegfeld, Gershwin, Bernstein, Rodgers, and Hart
- sing choral arrangements as part of the eighth grade chorus

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IN EIGHTH GRADE our students read:

Lord of the Flies
To Kill a Mockingbird
Robinson Crusoe
"The Bet"
"An Honest Thief"
"The Death of a Pig"
"The Marginal World"
The Diary of a Young Girl
"Letter from Birmingham Jail"

IN EIGHTH GRADE our students memorize:

"Choose Something Like A Star"
"Do Not Go Gentle into That Good
Night"
"The Lake Isle of Innisfree"
"Ozymandias"
"Spring and Fall"

Speeches by Winston Churchill,
Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Martin
Luther King, Jr., and Ronald Reagan