

St. Mary Parish School

Parents' Guide to Seventh Grade

This school year, your child will

Traits Exhibited by Many Twelve to Fifteen Year Olds

All children develop differently but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Sixth, Seventh, or Eighth Grade.

- Have a strong drive for conformity with own age group
- Have intense feelings and emotions
- Are influenced greatly by popular adults and teenage girls
- Have rapidly changing interests and ambitions
- Have a long interest span and increasing capacity for self-discipline
- Prefer competition with outside groups over competition with friends
- Have an idealism about the world at large
- Have concern with their personal appearance, self-consciousness and inhibition
- May begin to mature physically
- Boys and girls can work together on projects better than they can socialize

Middle School Teachers:

Angie Gemignani: Lit 6/7 Eng 6
 Jude Kosmider: Lit/Eng 7—8
 Becky Bronecki: Math 6—7—8
 Mary Wackman: Religion 6—7—8
 Veronica Groubert: Science 6-7-8
 Joy Wallschlaeger: Social Studies 6—7—8

Ann Fowler: Music
 Barb Moulton: Phy Ed
 Kristine Kuelthau: Spanish
 Becki Kram: Technology
 Sherie Drees: Art

Language Arts

- Use oral and written language to convey appropriate message
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Expand note taking skills
- Expand study skills
- Apply higher level thinking skills

- Engage in oral communications through speech exercises
- Refine knowledge of parts of speech and parts of the sentence
- Apply correct usage of the language in writing and speaking (subject/verb agreement, verb tense, etc.)
- Use writing process to plan and create narrative, descriptive, persuasive, expository, and expressive writings
- Understand the importance of word choice in conveying ideas and in relating to an audience
- Learn to formulate a well-developed paragraph using complete sentences
- Recognize and correct usage errors in writing (run-on sentences, fragments, incorrect subject/verb agreement, incorrect tense shift, etc.)
- Refine the uses of punctuation, especially internal punctuation
- Incorporate 6+1 Traits of good writing
- Increase written and spoken vocabulary
- Recognize that words have different contextual meanings
- Drill spelling in order to spell most words correctly
- Use computers to organize and communicate information
- Analyze text in terms of character, plot, setting, conflict
- Make predictions about a variety of texts
- Read books for information and enjoyment
- Read a variety of genre
- Write complete sentences and paragraphs
- Write stories, personal thoughts, poetry, or reactions to reading
- Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading

Math/Pre-Algebra

- Use more problem solving strategies
- Estimate realistic solutions to problems
- Understand properties of numbers to allow more ways to solve problems (commutative, associative distributive)
- Explain mathematical processes or reasoning orally and in writing
- Organize, present, and understand data
- Make graphs and tables
- Use statistical measures of mean, mode, median, range
- Recognize misleading statistics
- Use algebra symbols and equations
- Solve algebraic problems using $+1-1 \times 1 \div$
- Understand prime numbers

- Creates and evaluates algebraic expressions
- Uses algebraic expressions to solve problems
- Applies algebraic properties to solve equations and inequalities
- Graphs linear equations on a coordinate graph
- Recognizes, calculates and applies slope of a line
- Understands and applies Integers
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals and fractions
- Calculate percent
- Convert between fractions, decimals and percents
- Use tools to create geometric shapes and angles
- Estimate measurements
- Understand and convert basic units of measurement in metric and customary systems
- Use and understand ratios, proportions, and percents
- Understand positive and negative integers
- Locate a point on a grid using ordered pairs
- Understand probability or chance

Physical Education

- Use a variety of basic motor movements in rugby, frisbee, basketball, softball, volleyball, weight training, challenge team building, and badminton
- Apply rules of rugby, frisbee, basketball, softball, volleyball, challenge team building and badminton
- Demonstrate eye-hand coordination
- Understand and display sportsmanship
- Use feedback to improve performance
- Manage personal health, wellness, and fitness
- Develop and implement a personal health plan
- Demonstrate healthy ways to express needs, wants and feelings

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- Understand the social contributions of physical activity (respect, cooperation, teamwork)
- Demonstrate aerobic conditioning
- Engage in activities that develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance
- Demonstrate skills in cooperative activities
- Participate in the Fitness testing program
- Apply safety and warm-up procedures
- Demonstrate skills in dance
- Demonstrate skills in jump rope and juggling routines

Religion

- Investigate the seven sacraments and know their signs and symbols, rites and rituals
- Recognize the major traditions of our faith: Marks of the Church, the hierarchy and leadership
- Experience a relationship with God through individual and communal prayer and spontaneous prayer and meditation
- Recognizes their importance as unique individuals and members of the faith community
- Review the commandments, beatitudes, learns the Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy
- Describe experiences of conscience that lead to choices and consequences
- Understand that we use the Gospels and Commandments as a guide for living
- Know personal as well as social sin
- Learns the moral virtues
- Begins to integrate the skills of social justice and peacemaking as necessary for living into their own lives
- Study Jesus as God and Person and learns about his ministry
- Sees Jesus' ministry as a way to learn how to be friends, and relates His teachings to real life issues
- Can name the changes puberty brings
- Begin to perceive life in idealistic and in "black and white" terms
- See Saints and Holy people as role models for life

Science

- Learn how scientific knowledge is always growing
- Learn to use the metric system for measurement and lab data collection
- Learn to plan and conduct science experiments and communicate results including tables and graphs

- Learn how technology is used in daily life and in people's careers
- Learn about famous scientists
- Understand the use of keys to classify organisms
- Understand cellular structure of prokaryotes, plants, and animals
- Understand photosynthesis
- Understands the metric system
- Identifies characteristics of nonvascular and vascular plants
- Understand human physiology
- Understand heredity and genetics
- Understand theories of evolution including adaptation and natural selection
- Understand the interrelations within and between ecosystems
- Understand the ongoing changes in the environment

Social Studies

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Learn about political science: freedom democracy, equality, rules and regulations, responsibility, and justice
- Understand the voting process, majority rule, and minority rights
- Understand the separation of powers at all levels
- Understand the two party system
- Learn about the global economy and interdependence
- Understand business risks/profits
- Understand economic concepts: supply/demand, production, consumption, labor/wages, capital, inflation/deflation, public/private goods and services
- Know ways that people solve common problems by cooperating and working in groups
- Use maps and globes to locate settings of discussions
- Learn about Africa, incorporating map skills, various countries, economics, religions, and people
- Learn about current events

continued

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Technology

- Using ethical behavior in the use of technology resources
- Using appropriate spreadsheet functions to solve problems related to content areas
- Selecting and using technology tools to collect, analyze, and display data

- Using a variety of technological tools to develop projects in content areas

Art

- Use a variety of materials purposely and safely
- Understand color, texture, shape, balance, mood, composition, and line as elements of art
- Understand and apply mathematical principles to art (proportion, perspective, scale, geometry, pattern, repetition, measurement)
- Create art from different points of view
- Express self through art media
- Reflect on works of art in the world today and in history

Spanish

- Interpretive Communication
- Interpersonal Communication
- Presentational Communication
- Understands, explains, and compares cultural traditions

Music

- Understand melody, harmony, rhythm, form, and tone color as elements of music
- Perform rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic patterns on classroom instruments
- Listen to and analyze music in a variety of genres
- Identify form/structure of musical selections
- Read musical notation
- Apply basic music symbols
- Create new lyrics to a familiar song (correlate with Science)
- Identify the families of symphonic instruments
- Identify instruments by their tone quality
- Learn the ethnomusicological families of instruments (world music)
- Perform polyrhythms on African instruments