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# 2022-2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDEBOOK

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eCampus Academy



UPDATED: MAY 2022  
WATERTOWN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
111 Dodge St, Watertown WI 53094



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## Grade 06 Courses

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### English Language Arts 6

English Language Arts 6 introduces and builds the fundamental skills of English language arts, including reading, writing, speaking, listening, and using language. This course helps transition students from an elementary setting to the middle school learning environment. Students explore a variety of texts from a range of time periods, literary genres, and writers. From classic authors to contemporary creative writers, students study the use of language and literary devices to improve reading comprehension and to apply to their own skill sets. In addition to reading, students strengthen their writing skills through several modes of composition, such as entertainment, persuasive, poetic, and expository texts. They learn how to construct a well-written five-paragraph essay. Notably, students learn to conduct research, cite sources in MLA formatting, and compose a formal research essay. The final topic of the course provides the opportunity for students to either read a novel or examine a variety of excerpts from novels. This topic encompasses the fundamental skill sets built throughout the year. Students complete creative projects, such as creating an original piece of folklore and writing an original poem. These projects encourage students to highlight their talents and skills. This course emphasizes the importance of independent and creative thinking and integrates social-emotional learning.

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### Mathematics 6

Mathematics 6 introduces students to rational numbers and explores the concept of absolute value. Students work with ratios and rates to analyze relationships, and they connect these concepts to percents. Students also apply all four operations to decimal numbers, using the concepts to solve real-world application problems. In this course, students begin their study of Algebra by learning about mathematical expressions, equations, and inequalities. They analyze data and display data using statistical methods. Students also explore two- and three-dimensional shapes.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Decimals  
Expressions  
Equations  
Inequalities  
Rational Numbers  
Ratios and Rates  
Statistics



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Perimeter and Area  
Surface Area  
Volume

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## Science 6

Science 6 takes students on a journey that incorporates life science, Earth and space science, and physical science concepts. Students begin by studying topics related to the nature of science and engineering, and they gain the skills necessary to succeed in investigations and engineering labs within the course. They learn how matter and energy interact and aid in creating the world around them. Students discover the unique properties of Earth that make it a sustainable planet for living organisms. Students will take an in-depth look at cells and their specialized structures, a variety of habitable ecosystems, and the abilities plants and animals have to adapt to various surroundings. Along with learning about the life on Earth, students will study the atmosphere and weather that has made Earth habitable for humans. They investigate ways to be more environmentally conscious by exploring how populations are affected by various environmental factors. Students work toward discovering solutions to these problems. This course includes multiple-day projects and hands-on labs, which are driven by real-world phenomena and meaningful storylines.

### COURSE TOPICS

Science and Engineering  
Matter to Molecules  
Structure of the Universe  
Your Home: The Earth  
The Amazing Cell  
Survival of Plants  
Energy in Ecosystems  
Animal Behavior and Adaptations  
Population Ecology  
Human Impacts and Resources  
Water on Earth  
Atmosphere and Oceans  
Weather Climate  
Engineering a Solution

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## Art 6



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Art 6 rotation (45-day) encourages students to collaborate to create art. Students investigate how art can be personally significant while learning to be open to new artistic ideas, materials, methods, and creative approaches. In this course, students also explore the ways in which art equipment and materials can affect the environment. They study why and how artistic design can influence people, and they design art for a diverse population. Students also determine whether works of art successfully communicate their intended message. This course introduces three-dimensional art, and students compare two-dimensional and three-dimensional pieces before creating their own 3-D artwork. They will view art from around the world and determine what the works reveal about the values and lifestyles of the people depicted in the works. Finally, students learn the importance of preserving art and the ways in which to critique art.

## COURSE TOPICS

Artistic Investigation  
Collaborative Combination  
Upcycle Design  
Revising Work  
Time and Place  
Art Critique

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## Music 6

In Music 6, a 45-day rotation course, students express ideas and creativity through music. Students apply music terminology to different instrument groups and learn to read music. Additionally, students discuss different forms of music and popular songs within Western and worldwide music.

## COURSE TOPICS

Music Genres Galore  
The History of Recorded Music  
Improvisation  
Beginning Composition  
Piano & Its Famous Composers

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## PE 6

Physical Education 6 provides a complete physical education experience, allowing students to learn the basics of living a healthy life and the benefits of being active as often as possible. Students begin by learning about the organized, supervised physical activity required for the course. They also learn how to document their activity within a PE Log. Next, students move



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

into the content, studying topics ranging from health, nutrition, and safety to new, fun, and challenging activities. Before attempting each activity, students receive instruction on the basic elements and the proper execution of each movement so that they can get the most benefits from the exercise. Regardless of the activity students are asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation helps them to create a routine schedule. Students can be active by performing different exercises, by engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kit, which is available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items.

## COURSE TOPICS

Fitness

Good Health Feels Great

Fun Games

Sports

Exploring Outside Activities



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## Grade 07 Courses

### English Language Arts 7

English Language Arts 7 extends beyond the five fundamental English language arts skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and understanding language. This course exposes students to a variety of texts from a range of time periods, literary genres, and writers. From classic texts to contemporary creative writers and Evan-Moor pieces, students analyze fiction and nonfiction literature, examining and interpreting multiple literary devices within a single piece. In addition to reading, students strengthen their writing skills through narrative, informative, and persuasive compositions. They apply these forms of writing in essays, speeches, presentations, and other media. Students also compose an MLA-style research essay that includes headings, citations, and a Works Cited page. In addition, students produce a professional technical, or how-to, text that includes concise directions and images. The final topic of the course presents a wealth of valuable real-world skills. Notably, students practice important life skills, such as letter writing, filling out forms, and interviewing, while exploring career interests. Additionally, grammar is integrated regularly throughout the course to introduce and reinforce age-appropriate grammatical concepts. These lessons parallel the main lessons, and at the end of each grammar unit, students complete a summative workshop to apply the skills taught within that unit. Lastly, students complete creative projects, such as a family tree, an original narrative short story, a reinvention of themselves as a superhero, a song, and a writing portfolio. These projects and activities showcase students' abilities based on their learning styles. Overall, this course supports critical thinking and independent learning and application, while also incorporating social-emotional learning opportunities.

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### Mathematics 7

Students in Mathematics 7 begin their journey on the pathway to developing a strong mathematics framework. Students hone their arithmetic skills in this course, preparing them for more difficult and detailed calculations. Students work through fractions and decimals and begin developing algebraic skills by learning to work with and solve two-step equations. Students also explore probabilities, data, and statistics.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Equations

Probability, Including Experimental and Theoretical Probability

Multi-step Equations

Ordered Pairs

Fractions and Decimals

Rates and Ratios



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Proportions  
Unit Rates  
Absolute Value

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## Science 7

Science 7 integrates life science, Earth and space science, and physical science while incorporating both engineering and scientific methods. In this course, students explore the ways in which humans have an impact on Earth's ecosystems and resources. They study the different forces at work on Earth and throughout the universe, learning about their importance in technologies and everyday phenomena. Students also investigate evidence of past life on Earth and how it evolved into the life that exists today. This course allows students to dig deeper into the inheritance of organisms and how these organisms adapt to their environments. Finally, students are introduced to waves, exploring how both sound and light waves are used in communication. This course includes multiple-day engineering design projects and hands-on labs, which are driven by real-world phenomena and meaningful storylines.

### COURSE TOPICS

Science and Engineering  
Human Impacts on Earth  
Shaping the Planet  
A Dynamic Planet  
Forces and Motion  
Work and Energy  
History of Life  
Early Earth and Life  
The Basics of Cells  
Reproduction of Cells  
Traits and Heredity  
Adapting for Change  
Electricity and Magnetism  
Sound and Light  
Waves and Technology  
Renewable Solutions

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## Art 7



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

In Art 7, students transition from exploratory art discovery to a more discipline-based approach. This new approach focuses on developing students' skills and techniques as well as content knowledge, while still allowing for exploration and individuality. Students have the opportunity to act as real artists through repeated sketching, concept development, and continued research and observation activities while they work with a variety of media. Art 7 includes a strong focus on independent, creative thinking and problem solving through project-based learning. This course is designed to cover a half year of instruction, but it can be completed at each student's own pace. The project-based activities have dedicated, multi-day lessons to allow students time to sufficiently and successfully develop their ideas and artwork.

## COURSE TOPICS

Identity Explosion  
Grass-Growing Clay Pets  
Thief in the Night  
Unconventional Garment  
Figures of Inspiration  
Two-sided Landscape Art  
Daily Food Structure

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## Music 7

In Music 7, students explore the history, development, and attributes of American music. They will learn music theory and music reading skills, which are presented and reinforced within the context of historical musical works. Students interpret sheet music that represents various genres of American music. Additionally, students practice performing music vocally and with a pitched instrument.

## COURSE TOPICS

Foundations of Music  
Musicalities  
Musical Architecture  
Westward Bound  
Turn of the Century  
Take the Stage  
Talk about Pop Music  
Music of the Future

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## PE 7





# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Physical Education 7 offers a comprehensive physical education course for students to assist them in creating a healthy lifestyle and living an active life. Students begin by learning about the required, supervised physical activity and how to document their activity in a PE Log. Students can also track their activity by using a physical fitness step tracker. Students then move through the course content, which ranges from topics about healthy living and eating to a variety of fun and challenging activities. Before attempting each activity, students receive instruction on the basic elements and the proper execution of each movement so that they can get the most benefits from the exercise. Regardless of the activity students are asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. This expectation helps them to create a routine schedule. Students can be active by performing different exercises, by engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kit, which is available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items.

## COURSE TOPICS

Fun Games

Fitness

Focusing on Your Muscles

Total Health

Sports

Exploring Outside Activities



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## Grade 08 Courses

### English Language Arts 8

English Language Arts 8 introduces students to literature and informational texts. Through lessons on the literary elements, the structure of texts, and the basics of grammar and composition, students apply analytical thinking skills to the works that they read. Students also delve into poetry in this course by dissecting the structure of poems, the language, and the terminology that is often affiliated with the genre. Students also apply their listening and speaking skills through presentations and projects.

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### Mathematics 8

Mathematics 8 prepares students for more difficult mathematics courses by exposing students to foundational arithmetic concepts. Students in this course examine the elements of geometry by being introduced to angles, lines, and points. Students apply this knowledge to graphs using coordinate planes and by completing calculations between two points' distances. Students also study scientific notation, which assists them in computations and provides a framework for more difficult calculations.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Sequences  
Linear and Algebraic equations  
Probability  
Surface Area  
Data Representation  
Pythagorean Theorem  
Number Systems  
Square Roots  
Rational and Irrational Numbers  
Solving Equations

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### Science 8

Science 8 combines the subjects of life science, Earth and space science, and physical science while incorporating both engineering and scientific methods. Students further their knowledge of the interactions of matter, learning about the properties of the periodic table and how reactions occur. Next, students learn about reproduction in cells and inheritance. In this part of the course, students analyze the difference between types of reproduction in cells, leading them to determine how traits and genetic differences in DNA occur. Students travel back in



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time and determine how clues from life in the past help to explain, map, and classify existing life on Earth. Students also explore ecosystems and how precious they are to life on Earth, analyzing how even the smallest impacts can have large effects on populations. Finally, students investigate wave technologies and how those technologies are used on Earth for advancements in science and economic growth.

## COURSE TOPICS

Science and Engineering  
Properties of Matter  
Definitions of Energy  
The Periodic Table  
Chemical Reactions  
Solutions, Acids, and Bases  
Characteristics of Cells  
Reproduction  
Heredity  
DNA: A Deeper Look  
Evolution of Life  
History of Life on Earth  
Classifying Life  
Interactions in Ecosystems  
Human Impacts  
Climatic Hazards  
Waves and Communication

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## [MS Ancient History](#)

Ancient History enables students to explore the cultures of ancient civilizations throughout the world. They discover each civilization's contributions to art, music, literature, education, religion, science, technology, government, and philosophy. Students explore aspects of humanity from prehistoric to about 500 CE.d.

## COURSE TOPICS

Early Humans  
Mesopotamia  
Ancient Egypt  
Ancient Japan  
Ancient Greece  
Ancient Rome



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

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## Art 8

In Art 8, students will be introduced to design elements and principles, as well as contemporary art-making processes and the act of conceptual thinking. The Art 8 curriculum is designed to cover a half-year of instruction but can be completed at each student's own pace.

### COURSE TOPICS

Art Journaling  
Social Justice Graphic Novel  
Hockney Photographic Collage  
Museum Curation and Narration  
Identifying Group Triptych  
Assemblage  
Masking Tape Murals

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## Music 8

In Music 8, students are introduced to a variety of music genres and instruments. They explore the concepts of rhythm, melody, timbre, texture, dynamics, form, and rhythm, and they learn to sight read music. Students listen to various examples of songs to interpret performances, and they compose and perform their own song.

### COURSE TOPICS

Music Theory  
Elements of Music  
Family of Instruments  
Music Genres  
World Music  
Talent Competition  
Sight Reading  
Writing Music  
Composing

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## PE 8

Physical Education 8 offers a complete physical education experience for students, helping them learn about and implement healthy habits. Whether it is through nutrition, exercise, or general life choices, students are educated on the multiple facets of creating a healthy lifestyle.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Students begin by learning about the required physical activity and how to document their activity in a PE Log. Students can also track their activity by using a fitness tracker. Next, students begin to work through the course content, which ranges from topics about the F.I.T.T. principle and other fitness components to various fun and challenging activities and exercise techniques. Before attempting each activity, students receive instruction on the basic elements and the proper execution of each movement so that they can get the most benefits from the exercise. Regardless of the activity students are asked to do within a given day, they are encouraged to get up and move for a certain amount of time within each lesson. Students can be active by performing different exercises, engaging in different activities, or by using items from their grade-appropriate physical education kit, which is available to purchase. This kit, which is designed to work in conjunction with the course content, contains age-appropriate exercise and activity items.

## COURSE TOPICS

Fun Games

Fitness

Movement Concepts

Total Health

Sports

Exploring Outside Activities

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# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## MS Mathematics Options

### Pre-Algebra

In Pre-Algebra, students explore concepts such as integers, expressions, equations, and fractions. This course provides students with a solid foundation for Algebra I and emphasizes the use of technology, problem solving, critical thinking, and reasoning.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Linear Functions

Plots

Slopes and Intercepts

Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences

Geometry

Equations

Pythagorean Theorem

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### Algebra

In Algebra, students can earn high school credit as they explore variables, function patterns, graphs, and equations. They will describe and translate graphic, algebraic, numeric, and verbal representations of relations and use those representations to solve problems. Students will develop computational, procedural, and problem-solving skills throughout this course, building a solid foundation for further study in mathematics.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Solving Equations

Units & Sequences

Graphs & Functions

Linear Equations & Graphs

Exponents/Exponential Functions

Polynomials & Factoring

Quadratic Equations

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### Honors Geometry

In Geometry, students can earn high school credit as they begin to create a solid foundation in mathematics by studying and exploring a wide range of geometric concepts. Students study the basics of geometric equations and how these equations are present in daily life. They calculate



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

perimeter and work directly with angles and arcs to evaluate the importance of geometric math in construction.

## COURSE TOPICS

Angle Relationships

Parallel and Perpendicular Lines

Congruence

Bisectors

Trigonometry

Transformations

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# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## MS Science Options

### Earth and Space Science

In Middle School Earth and Space Science, students study the planet Earth and the extensive solar system structure in which it resides. They evaluate Earth's climate and its weather patterns and changes, and they learn about life science and how chemistry and physics play a role in Earth's major processes. Students also investigate climate change and the ways in which global warming impacts Earth. By evaluating the numerous facets of our planet, students prepare for higher level and more subject-specific science courses.

#### COURSE TOPICS

- Introduction to Cosmology
- Galaxies and Stars
- Earth-Sun-Moon System
- Exploring Space
- Human Population
- Predicting Natural Hazards
- Climate Change

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### Life Science

Middle School Life Science introduces students to an integrated approach to physical and life sciences. Students study science concepts and problem solving, while exploring the many aspects of the living and nonliving world around them. Students review numerous cycles of life and study their impact on animal, plant, and human life. Students also investigate important topics in histology, heredity, and the biology of living organisms.

#### COURSE TOPICS

- Basic Characteristics of Life
- Structure & Function of the Cell
- Levels of Biological Organization
- Growth & Development of Organisms
- Organization of Energy & Matter in Ecosystems
- Cycles of Matter in Ecosystems
- Ecosystem Dynamics
- Heredity
- Mendelian Dynamics
- Evidence of Evolution
- Natural Selection





# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## Adaptations

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### Physical Science

Middle School Physical Science introduces students to the foundational concepts of both physics and chemistry. Students begin by studying topics related to the nature of science and engineering, where they gain the skills necessary to succeed in inquiry-based and engineering labs. They move on to learn the general principles of chemistry and physics, including matter and energy, chemical reactions, motion and forces, and interactions of waves. This course allows students to explore these major concepts through unique labs based on real-world phenomena.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Matter

Energy

Chemical Bonds & Reactions

Forces & Motion

Work, Energy, and Power

Sound Waves

Light Waves

Electricity

Magnets & Magnetism

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# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## MS Social Studies Options

### MS Geography

Typically taught in 6th grade, students learn to study the Earth's landscape in Middle School Geography. In this course, students learn that geography extends beyond physical structures by exploring geographical facets such as regions, ethnicities, and trade routes, in addition to landforms. By studying the geography, history, culture, religion, and contemporary issues facing a certain group of people or a specific area of space, students discover a significant amount of information about people in the present and in the past.

#### COURSE TOPICS

- Places and Regions
- Geographical Arguments
- Organization of a Region
- Spatial and Cultural Patterns
- Constructing and Using Maps
- Inquiry in Geography
- Valid Sources
- Critiquing Arguments

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### MS Civic and Government

Typically taught in 7th grade, Middle School Civics and Government introduces students to the basic principles of the democratic government of the United States. Students examine the structure of legislation, including the numerous branches of government and the roles that each branch plays governing the nation. Students look at local and state governments, including mandates and laws and how those laws affect citizens locally and nationally.

#### COURSE TOPICS

- Political Parties
- Legislative, Judicial, and Executive Branches
- Voting & Civil Rights
- Local Government
- State Government
- Taxation & Tax Structure
- Public & Private Services
- Mandates & Laws
- Origin of Law
- The Constitution



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Amendment Creation

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## [MS US History](#)

Typically taught in 8th grade, Middle School U.S. History explores the history of the United States from before the arrival of Europeans in North America to the events of the 2016 presidential election. Students begin the course by examining North America before the arrival of European explorers and the establishment of colonies. Students learn about life in the colonies, British rule, and the events that led to the Revolutionary War. After learning about the American Revolution, students explore early U.S. government, westward expansion, the influence of the Industrial Revolution, and the Civil War. Then, they study life after the Civil War, Progressivism, Imperialism, and the onset of World War I. Next, students analyze the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II. Finally, students examine the Civil Rights movement, the Cold War, life in the 1960s and 1970s, and modern-day policies and events.

### COURSE TOPICS

Precolonial America

Colonial America

American Revolution

Early United States

Westward Expansion

Industrial Revolution

The Civil War

Reconstruction

Progressive and Labor Movements

U.S. Imperialism

WWI

The Roaring Twenties

The Great Depression

WWII

Civil Rights

Cold War and Vietnam

The 1960s and 1970s

Modern Policies and Events

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## [MS US History to 1877](#)



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Typically taught in 8th grade, Middle School U.S. History to 1877 encompasses the discovery of North America by European explorers, colonization, the Revolutionary War, and the Civil War. Students begin the course by learning about Native American tribes that existed in North America before the arrival of European explorers and colonization. Students then examine colonial life and the French and Indian War, as well as the events that preceded the Revolutionary War, the development of the U.S. government, and westward expansion. Finally, students study the events and circumstances that inspired the Civil War, key aspects of the Civil War, and the Reconstruction era.

## COURSE TOPICS

- Native Americans
- Early European Explorers
- North American Colonization
- French and Indian War
- American Revolution (1764-1775)
- American Revolution (1776-1783)
- Early American Government
- United States Expansion
- War of 1812
- Industrial Revolution
- Jacksonian Era
- Early Nineteenth Century
- Tension Grows
- Union and Confederacy
- Events of the Civil War
- Reconstruction

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# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## Middle School Courses

### [Introduction to Computer Programming](#)

The Introduction to Computer Programming course, a course for middle school students, provides a foundation for future programming courses. The Introduction to Computer Programming course, a course for middle school students, provides a foundation for future programming courses. Students gain a broad overview of computer programming by exploring the logic, thought processes, and basic elements of writing code. As part of this exploration, students examine various programming languages, databases, and the Internet. Through this overview of computer programming, students relate the course concepts to daily life by investigating careers in technology and by learning how to responsibly navigate through our digital society.

#### COURSE TOPICS

Technology Careers

Data Protection

Programming Process Overview

Programming Languages

Computational Thinking

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### [Coding 1](#)

Do you find yourself wondering how your favorite apps, websites, and games were made? Maybe you want to try building your own. Well, now you can! In Middle School Coding 1a, you will get an introduction to the basics of computer science, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and Python. You'll leave the course with a portfolio of work you can show off!

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### [Coding 2](#)

Building on the prior prerequisite course, expand your knowledge of programming languages and web development by further exploring Python, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. Analyze the differences between web development and web application development, while growing your portfolio, which will serve to highlight everything you have learned and created in the course.

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### [Game Design 1](#)



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We love to play video games, but have you ever wanted to build your own? If you are interested in a career in technology but also want a creative outlet, Game Design might be the field for you. Learn how to build a game from the ground up in this interactive and hands-on course that will teach you all the ins and outs of making your own game.

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## Game Design 2

Building upon the prior prerequisite course, students will further advance their knowledge of game design by taking this course. Delving into the development process, students will create details and add component pieces in a game while learning to prototype, troubleshoot, and test. Additionally, exploring how to critique a game and advertise it will strengthen the student's ability to create a fully functioning game from start to finish.

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## Exploring IT

If you've ever dreamed of a job in technology, but aren't sure where to start, then it's time to explore the different career options available to you in the field of IT. You'll examine various IT pathways of web and digital communications, information and support services, network systems, and programming and software development. The world of IT careers is in high-demand, so let's get to investigating which career pathway is right for you.

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## Creative Engineering

This course is available to students who have established a baseline of hardwork and focus. Former NASA engineer and YouTuber Mark Rober teaches you everything he knows in this one-month class. Immerse yourself in the process and leave the class with 3 personalized engineering builds and a new set of lifelong creative engineering skills. (limited space)

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## 2D Studio Art

Close your eyes and imagine you're standing in an art studio—the smell of paint, the heat of the kiln, and the infinite creative possibilities that linger in the air. This is where art is born, and in 2D Studio Art, you'll learn how to bring your art visions to life. Whatever medium you prefer—painting, drawing, photography—this course will teach you the design elements and principles needed to create a work of art, explore your artistic inspirations, travel back in time to look at art in different cultures, and gain insight about the art of critiquing. If you've ever dreamed



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

about making a living as an artist, this course will give you the tools and background that you need to turn those dreams into a reality!

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## Photography 1

Photographs are all around us, and each helps to tell a story. Now it's time for you to create your story through photos you learn how to take in this course. Learn the basics of using a camera, lighting, and how to choose great subjects to create magazine-worthy photos and amaze your friends and family with your skills.

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## Photography 2

Do you have vacation photos or pics of your pet that need a little editing? How about getting ready to add that new selfie you took to your social media platform? Taking photos is an art, and editing photos is a skill that many photographers seek to master. Explore how to manipulate angles and lighting, the purpose for different types of photo files, how to use different software to edit photos, and safe places you can store them. You'll be well on your way to being an editing guru when you're done with this course.

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## Digital Art and Design

There are so many different types of art in this world—fine art, classical art, visual art—but the impact of digital art and design is all around us, often in ways that you probably aren't even aware of! After taking Digital Art and Design, you'll enjoy a deeper understanding and appreciation for all things digital as you explore this special genre of art found in everything from advertising to animation to photography and beyond. In this course, you'll learn about the evolution of art, the basic principles of art and design, and the role of art in politics and society. Additionally, you will actually create your own digital art and make it come alive. Give your creative side a boost with this Digital Art and Design course!

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## Journalism: Tell Your Story

Who? What? When? Where? Journalism provides us with the answers to these questions for the events that affect our lives. In this course, students will learn how to gather information, organize ideas, format stories for different forms of news media, and edit their stories for publication. The course will also examine the historical development of journalism and the role of journalism in society.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

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## Exploring Health Science

Where do healthcare workers spend their days? What do they really do? From cruise ships to sports arenas, you can find healthcare workers in many places that you might not expect. Explore this field, including what it would be like to work in a medical lab. Learn what it takes to keep you and your patients safe, and begin to learn about the human body and basic first-aid.

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## Exploring Business

Are you interested in business, leading people, or making decisions to help a business be successful? While there are many different career choices in the field of business, in this course, you'll discover options such as management, human resources, business operations, information management, and accounting. Explore the skills you'll need, common tasks, the technology used, and characteristics of various business careers.

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## Career Exploration 1

How do you pick a career path when you're not sure what's even out there? This course allows you to begin exploring options in fields such as teaching, business, government, hospitality, health science, IT, and more! You'll align your interests, wants, and needs to career possibilities, including the required education for each. Let's find a pathway that works for you.

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## Career Exploration 2

With all the careers options available, it can be difficult to narrow down a choice for the future. Explore more careers and see what it takes to succeed and what steps are needed to prepare. Compare the pros and cons of different career choices and try out parts of different careers to see if your skills and preferences align!

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## Fitness

Are you physically fit? What does being fit mean to you? Physical fitness is a lot more than just a number on a scale – and that's exactly what you'll learn in this course! This course will help you understand the basics behind what it means to be physically fit; allow you to gain a deeper understanding about how your body functions; learn the complex science behind exercise; explore what it means to be mindful and what inspires you; and determine how you can test





# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

your current level of fitness. Being and staying physically fit is a lifelong endeavor and, just like human beings, there are many complexities involved! Learning about and improving your physical fitness is a smart choice to make at any age - and by signing up for this course, you will be doing exactly that! Consider this course to be the first step on your exciting journey to understanding and improving your physical fitness!

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## MS Health

Middle School Health explores each of the health dimensions, including physical health, social health, emotional health, and intellectual health. Students learn about healthy eating habits, safe exercise routines, and ways to prevent disease. They also study how to improve their emotional and intellectual well-being, including methods for boosting their self-confidence and enhancing their decision-making skills. In addition, students learn to apply refusal skills when faced with peer pressure while maintaining healthy relationships. By the end of the course, students will have the tools necessary to improve all areas of health in order to achieve total wellness and make healthier lifestyles choices.

### COURSE TOPICS

- Wellness
- Social Health
- Healthy Food Choices
- Personal Fitness
- Emotional Health
- Intellectual Health
- Evaluating Choices
- Substance Abuse
- Communicable Diseases
- Noncommunicable Diseases

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## MS Nutrition and Personal Fitness

In Middle School Nutrition and Personal Fitness, students explore nutrition, dietary needs, and physical fitness. With a foundation in nutrition principles and practices, students read food labels and identify food safety concerns. With regard to physical fitness, students analyze exercise guidelines that promote healthy lifestyles.

### COURSE TOPICS

- Flexibility
- Assessing Habits



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

Planning for Diet Needs  
Food Groups  
Fitness Components

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## Exploring Music

What comes to mind when you hear the word 'music'? Do you think about your favorite band or artist? Or do you think about instruments and scales and chords? The word music means something different to everyone. Which is why in this Music course, there's a little bit of something for everyone! You will learn about how we hear music; how music affects our lives; important elements of music like rhythm, pitch, and harmony; different musical genres; singing and your voice; various instruments; music composition; and the history and culture of music over the years. Tune up your understanding and appreciation for all things music by signing up for this course!