

NorthCreek Academy

Sixth Grade

Bible

During the sixth grade year, we will delve into a deeper study of sin, salvation, and our wonderful Savior. *Decision Quest* will take students on a fictional undersea journey, allegorizing the process of salvation and sanctification, and providing many springboards for discussion, reflection, and activities. Along the way, students will learn what it is to seek God and to know Him. Also, they will better understand man as God's fallen image bearer, and Christ as the perfect God-man. Every other week, students will memorize scripture related to the topic at hand.

Language Arts

Within the Classical Model, 6th grade becomes a transition where students move into the Dialectic Stage. Students learn to think critically and engage in higher-level reasoning. This is especially true in Language Arts. Using the core literature of 6th grade, students are learning how to analyze, evaluate, respond and write about the various themes and elements of that literature. The 6th graders read in depth: *The Hobbit* by Tolkien, *The Tales of O'Henry*, *Treasure Island* by Stevenson, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Shakespeare. Also, students will be doing independent reading from the Junior High Reading List. During the course of the year, students will be involved in a variety of expository and creative writing experiences, addressing a variety of topics and styles. *Vocabulary Workshop Level A* by Sadlier-Oxford provides vocabulary development and *The Shurley Method: English Made Easy*, continues the comprehensive grammar program. In all aspects of the 6th grade course work, students will be directed to consider God's Word and how it pertains to the topics, situations, or worldviews presented in the curriculum.

History/Social Studies

The focus of 6th grade history and social studies is Ancient Civilizations, examining earliest influential societies and empires from approx. 4,000 B.C. to approx. 400 A.D.: Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, China, India, Greece and Rome. As students make the transition from elementary to middle-school, history/social studies is a particularly strong area for growth in terms of critical thinking and analysis; integration with other subjects (i.e. language arts and science); reinforced cultural literacy via stories, note-taking, hands-on art projects and re-enactments; reading increasingly sophisticated supplementary literature as supplementary material, conducting highly animated debate-style in-class discussions; and – most of all – discerning research and alignment with Scripture. Old and New Testament historical accounts are consistently brought to bear as the linchpin for understanding and retaining the material. Testing modalities emphasize personal ownership and analysis of material beyond rote memorization. Connections to modern-day are also featured.

Math

In 6th grade math, we will be reinforcing some of the basic computation skills students have been learning over the last few years and applying them to real life situations. We will learn about integers, decimals, fractions, ratios, proportions, percents, and statistics. Some basic algebra concepts will be introduced and we will look at problems from a more algebraic frame of reference. We will continue to use Accelerated Math, a computerized supplemental program, as a review and reinforcement tool.

Science

In Earth Science, the students will be investigating Earth's system and cycles, composition of the earth, energy resources, plate tectonics and erosion. We begin with a firm foundation in scripture learning that God has control over all the earth in all aspects from its creation thousands of years ago to the present. He controls the movements of the earth and the contours of the earth. He is the owner of the earth and we are His stewards over it. As we delve into the various areas, students will be involved in critical thinking skills, hands on labs, presentations, and our Junior High Science Fair. The students in class will be testing rocks for hardness, building and exploding volcanoes, making weather instruments, creating a rock cycle poster as well as making an erosion board game.

Health

Health is an area that allows students to learn about their bodies and how to care for them. Our bodies belong to God, our Creator. During the course year, the students will learn about caring for their bodies, the dangers of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, dangers of the internet, how to practice good hygiene and make good food choices. We will learn about common illnesses, how to initiate a personal fitness plan and setting goals for oneself. First aid and how to take care of simple injuries also comes in handy whether you are caring for yourself or babysitting others. We also run workshops on God's view of purity and relationships. Our program is set up so that when we are covering these topics, we run a parent class separately for those that would like to know what we will be covering. Our desire is for parents to take an active role in their child's learning, answering questions at home and continuing in more depth if the student is ready.