

6th Grade Procedures

CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail Address: ETHomasen@tcsnj.org

Feel Free to E-mail me about any situation or question you might have. I check e-mails somewhat regularly throughout the day and in the evenings.

If you feel that it is something urgent, you may call my cell phone:
(201) 400-4326 (Please call no later than 9:30 PM. ☺)

DAILY ITEMS

Assignment book

Assignment books should be on their desks at the start of the day so that they can record all of their homework. With it done in the morning, there isn't the chance of forgetting it later when they are packing up. Students are responsible for showing parents their assignments so that you know what they have to do and aren't surprised by a test or big assignment!

Morning Arrival

- 7:55-8:12 – They will have a two minute grace period to get into the classroom, but by 8:12, they will be marked late.
- Routine
 - Unpack
 - Today's homework copied in assignment notebook
 - Books for the morning on their desks
 - Use bathroom & pencils sharpened
 - Get started on the DO NOW

CLASSROOM SCHEDULE

Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:10 – 8:35	DO NOW Devotions	DO NOW Devotions	DO NOW Devotions	DO NOW Devotions	DO NOW Devotions
8:35 - 9:05	BIBLE	GEOGRAPHY	BIBLE	BIBLE	BIBLE SPELLING TEST VOCAB QUIZ
9:05– 9:50	GEOGRAPHY	CHAPEL (9:10-9:45)	GEOGRAPHY	GEOGRAPHY	GEOGRAPHY
9:50 Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
10:15– 11:00	MATH	MATH	MATH	MATH	MATH
11:00– 11:30	READING/VOCAB	READING	READING	READING	ART
11:40– 12:00	SPELLING	WRITING		GRAMMAR	
12:00	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
12:45 – 1:30	SCIENCE	GRAMMAR	MUSIC	LATIN	PHYS. ED.
1:30 – 2:10		SCIENCE	SCIENCE	SPELLING	SCIENCE
2:10-2:55	LATIN	LATIN	GRAMMAR	CHORUS	

ACADEMIC SUBJECTS

HANDWRITING

Curriculum:

- Teacher-generated

There is no specific handwriting curriculum. Most weeks, they will have to write their Catechism questions out for a handwriting grade. Also in each quarter, I will pick 10 or more different assignments – Spelling, Geography, Science, and even Math - to grade the quality of their handwriting. I will sometimes reveal which assignments will be graded, but for others, I will not. This way, they will be responsible to do their Best on Every assignment – and they should anyways, because we should do all things to the glory of God!

BIBLE

Curriculum:

- *The Westminster Shorter Catechism* – **study notes**
- ***Firm in the Faith*** by Dennis T. Hustedt
- *NKJV Bible*
- *Hymns and songs*

Our study will include memorizing the catechism questions and answers and a proof text of Scripture. Each question will be discussed in class. There will be quizzes on the Catechism questions and verses, and the tests will cover knowledge of the catechism and understanding of the doctrines, as well as memorizing the answers.

Notes:

- Catechism Question quizzes – fill in the blanks
- Memorization – word perfectly
- Oral – reciting the answer and the verse out loud for a quiz grade
- Tests – fill in the blanks and questions off of their notes

ENGLISH AND WRITING

Curriculum:

- *Writing and Grammar* (BJU Press)

These classes will focus on sharpening English grammar skills previously learned, mastering new material, as well as developing the orderliness of language through imitation of works of literature, summarization, and composing original pieces of writing. Writing is an important skill to have, not just in their school years, but also for their futures! There will be many writing assignments throughout the year to allow them to practice. The students will also be learning about various forms of poetry, short stories, essays, and research papers. They will be applying the steps of the writing process, which means one draft is not enough. Skills that they learn in Grammar will be required in their writing.

LITERATURE

Curriculum:

- *As Full as the World: Reading 6 for Christian Schools* (BJU Press)
Novels: *Bronze Bow*, *Sir Gibbie*, *God's Adventurer*, *A Father's Promise*

Reading class consists of the students silently and orally reading short stories, poems, interviews and novels.

Students will complete worksheets and also participate in classroom discussions. We will continually ask and seek to find the answers to these basic questions: 'What is the author saying?' and 'Is it true?' as we try to train the students to think Biblically about anything that they read. The desire is to get them to think for themselves.

Students will also be learning literary vocabulary words that are drawn from the reading selections. They will be learning word recognition skills to help them independently access the meanings of words.

MATH

Curriculum:

- *Saxon Math and Daily Word Problems*

In the sixth grade, the students will review concepts learned in past grades. Daily lessons include a new concept as well as review problems. Most days we will begin class with a speed drill to keep up the students' memories of facts and mental skills. The students are responsible for correcting homework in class and correcting any mistakes. The more mistakes they have, the longer it will take them to correct them, which will mean less time to work on their new homework in class. My hope is that they work carefully on their homework assignments so that they don't make silly mistakes. Test grades will reflect their understanding of the concepts learned through the chapters. The word problems are to make them think 'outside the box.' Sometimes they are a bit challenging, but if they show their work, they can earn points!

GEOGRAPHY

Curriculum:

- *Old World History & Geography in Christian Perspective (A Beka)*

This is a geography survey course of the countries, bodies of water, and land formations of the Eastern Hemisphere. The students will be learning and memorizing the locations, capitals, important physical features, and current events associated with the major countries of the Eastern Hemisphere. The focus is geography, but culture and people will also be taught to bring the material to life! The students will complete maps & assignments in their books, as well as review and practice the sound offs and maps as we go. Throughout the course, we will be praying for the needs of individual countries and for

missionaries serving in these places. As a culmination of this study in the spring, the students will put together a Country Report! This project will most likely be a bigger endeavor than they have ever done before, so we will do most of the work in class. There will be some parts that will be done at home, but a packet will go out before so that you are aware of what needs to be done.

Notes:

- Sound off and map should be practiced daily
- Country Feast Days – periodically you as parents will be asked to volunteer to bring in food from other countries to allow the students to taste test different foods from around the world
- Country report in the spring

SPELLING

Curriculum:

- *SPELLING WORKOUT* (Modern Curriculum Press)

For the spelling tests, twenty-three of the words will relate to the organizing principle that is the focus of the lesson. (I add 3 each week) There also will be 10 bonus words that follow a different topic each week, and on the test day, I will recite a sentence that they will have to copy down with correct spelling.

The students will be given until Thursday to get the spelling workbook pages accomplished. I decided to let them have the freedom to choose when they will do the pages, because it gives them the flexibility with their other homework. The hope is that they will learn how to manage their time!

TCS also structures tests with the intent to teach general spelling rules, as opposed to sole memorization of word spellings. 10 spelling grades will be taken from various homework assignments to keep them on their toes!

SCIENCE

Curriculum:

- *Science* for 6th Grade (BJU Press)
- *Science Activity Manual* (BJU Press)

Science class is an exciting study of God's marvelous creation and the challenge of learning about the terms & relationships of that creation! The science curriculum provides many hands-on experiences through activities and demonstrations, and covers units on many different topics.

In science we will have reading assignments, activity manual exercises, projects and tests. Most activities and projects will be done in class with the exception of preparing for the Science Fair this fall. We will do a portion of the Science Fair in class, but the majority will be done at home.

GRADING SCALE

Reading

1. Oral reading – 15%
2. Worksheets – 20%
3. Vocabulary quizzes-25%
4. AR- 15%
5. Comprehension – 25%

3. Quizzes/ Tests – 20%
4. Writing – 45%

Spelling

1. Tests – 55%
2. from papers – 25%
3. Homework – 20%

Geography/ Science/ Bible

1. Daily grades/quizzes – 33%
2. Test grades – 67%

Math

1. Homework – 25%
2. Speed drills – 15%
3. Tests – 50%
4. Word Problems - 10%

English

1. Homework – 25%
2. Orals – 10%

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES

- Time limit – 75 minutes (hopefully not very often!)
- Amounts of homework will differ each night. If the time is exceeding far beyond 75 minutes of *diligent* work, you may tell your child that he/she has done enough. *Please then write a note in the assignment book* so that I know why it isn't finished. I'd ask you to help your child to remember to do the most urgent assignment first (i.e., next day's work, test, etc.). If you have concerns about a *pattern* of your child spending excessive time on homework, please let me know!

Elementary School Demerits for Missing Homework:

1. A missing homework assignment will receive one demerit. If students fail to return their demerit slip signed by a parent, that will warrant another demerit.
2. Four demerits will result in an after-school detention. Another four will result in another one, etc.
3. Demerits will be removed at the end of every quarter, and they are not counted the same as behavioral demerits.