6th Grade Courses

- Composition
- Grammar
- Mathematics
- PE
- Reading
- Religion
- Science
- Social Studies
- Spanish
- Spelling
- Technology
Composition 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Margaret Arroyo  School: Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Composition 6 teaches students the basics of composition, including sentence structures, the elements of a well-written essay, and expanded vocabulary. The course includes a variety of writing assignments which enable the students to express themselves precisely, vividly, and effectively. This class includes the narrative, expository, and persuasive essay, as well as letter writing activities.

Goals:

✓ Students learn the steps to writing (planning, pre-writing, organization, rough draft, editing, re-writing, publishing)

✓ Students will learn the components of an essay (Introductory paragraph, body, conclusion)

✓ Students will plan and organize information for writing compositions.

✓ Students will develop word vocabulary and think creatively.

Resources:

SAT Word Power: Vocabulary Cartoons.
Author: Bryan Burchers, Bryan E. Burchers, Samuel A. Burchers Jr.

Assessment:

In-class participation, student created essays, vocabulary quizzes.
Grammar 6 Course Outline

Instructor:  Jeff Palaszewski  
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School:  Old Mission School

Course Summary:

Grammar 6 offers a traditional approach to grammar. Lessons define and explain each concept, followed by ample exercises for practice. The activities and recurring features build on learning by providing opportunities for practical application and language arts integration.

Goals:

- Students will gain competence in usage, sentence structure, and mechanics.
- Students will attain knowledge of the parts of speech.
- Students will use the laws of capitalization, agreement, and punctuation correctly.

Text:
Voyages in English, Loyola Press, 1999

Resources:
Worksheets, daily warm-up exercises

Assessment:
Written homework, oral and written practice in class, quizzes, and formal chapter tests
Mathematics 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Stefani Higuera
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School: Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Sixth Grade Math offers a variety of mathematical opportunities to assist the student in becoming more proficient in the computational and problem solving skills essential to their career success in an increasingly technological society. Topics include numbers and numeration, four basic operations, expressions, equations, inequalities, integers, number theory, fractions, decimals, measurement, plane geometry, polygons, circles, ratios, proportions, percents, surface area, volume, probability, statistics, graphing, algebra, and rational number topics.

Goals:

✓ Students will develop and enhance mathematical problem-solving strategies.

✓ Students will master necessary mathematical skills development for placement into Pre-Algebra.

✓ Students will develop a high level of mathematical success during the learning process.

Text:


Resources:

Calculators, Manipulatives, Various Workbooks

Assessment:

Homework, Quizzes, Tests, Journals, Board work
Physical Education 6 Course Outline

Instructor:  Coach Jon Kaufman          School:  Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Physical Education offers physical exercise and activity in relation to being fit and healthy for a lifetime. This represents the ability of the whole body, including the muscles, skeleton, heart, and all other body parts, to work together efficiently by doing the most work with the least amount of effort. Activities include soccer, volleyball, basketball, various relays, softball, track and field, speedaway, tennis, dance, aerobics, floor hockey and other assorted games and activities emphasizing a theme of "fitness for life."

Goals:

✓ Students will develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially during planned physical activity through a means of drills, skills enhancement, sportsmanship, positive reinforcement, team cooperation, strength development and cardiovascular endurance.

✓ Students will pre-and-post-test annually for strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance via the AAHPERD Physical Best Test Battery consisting of pull-ups, sit-ups, sit and reach, and the mile run.

Resources:

Fitness for Life, Scott, Foresman and Company,
Dynamic Physical Education for Elementary School Children, Macmillan
Publishing Company, guest speakers, workshops, videos, AAHPERD Physical Best Test Battery.

Assessment:

Participation, attendance, cooperation, effort.
Reading 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Debra Romano
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School: Old Mission School

Course Summary:

Reading 6 is a comprehensive program designed for the student to become a "good reader". Good readers are strategic readers- thoughtful, dynamic participants in the reading process. The program covers the following themes: Personal Best, Friends to the Rescue, Unlocking the Past, Creative Solutions, Making a Difference, and Expanding Words. In addition, we will explore three novels.

Goals:

✓ Student will relate prior knowledge to reading.
✓ Student will develop a clear focus or purpose for reading.
✓ Student will combine phonics, word elements, and context clues to identify words and unlock their meanings.
✓ Student will pay careful attention to vocabulary for thorough comprehension.
✓ Student will form mental images as they read.
✓ Student will monitor their own comprehension, rereading as necessary.
✓ Student will summarize as they read.

Text:


Assessment:

Homework, classwork, vocabulary, book logs, quizzes, tests.
Religion 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Jeff Palaszewski  
School: Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Religion curriculum in 6th grade emphasizes Salvation History, and how it is the love story between God and humans from Creation to the coming of the Kingdom in its fullness. Topics include: Creation, God, Jesus Christ, the Church, and Christian Morality. This course includes daily reading of a bible story, weekly reading of Visions(a gospel reflections/lectionary-based program), teaching content information from the textbook, participation in individual and school wide liturgies, and a Family Life element that focuses on the moral catechesis of hope in the face of all the challenges facing the contemporary Catholic family.

Goals:

✓ Students will gain knowledge of Old and New Testament Bible stories.
✓ Understand that Salvation History is God’s love story to the world.
✓ Reflect on Wednesday mass readings before attending liturgy.
✓ Discover that human sexuality has its place within the context of Christian Moral living.

Text:

Walking By Faith- Brown Roa 1999 and Benziger Family Life Series 2001

Resources:

Student Bible, journal for notes

Projects:

Jesse Tree, Operation Rice Bowl, weekly tithing

Assessment:

Homework, special project assignments, quizzes, tests
Science 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Kacy Coalwell
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School: Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Science curriculum in the 6th grade emphasizes a hands-on approach to earth science. Students will be completing weekly labs, they will be introduced to the equipment used by scientists, and they gain an understanding of the scientific method. Topics include: plate tectonics, rocks and minerals, earthquakes, volcanoes, maps, oceanography, and weather.

Goals:

✓ Students will feel comfortable in the laboratory setting.

✓ Students will gain knowledge of the tools and equipment used by scientists.

✓ Students will understand the steps of the scientific method.

✓ Students will develop an appreciation for the Earth and its various systems

Text:

Earth Science, Holt California

Resources:

Eyewitness Science Videos

Projects:

Weekly labs; rock and mineral, earthquake, and volcano reports; river project; alternative energy project; current events

Assessment:

Labs, tests, homework, oral presentations, science journals, group projects
Social Studies 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Jeff Palaszewski  
School: Old Mission School  
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E-mail: jpalaszewski@omsslo.com

Course Summary:

Social Studies 6 is about the development of literate citizens—individuals with knowledge, skills, and civic values they need to become active and reflective participants in the world of the twenty-first century. Topics include The World Past and Present, The Earliest People, Early Middle Eastern and North African Civilizations, The Foundation of Western Ideas, and Rome: A Western Power. Students will take time to explore topics, to practice skills in meaningful contexts, and to relate their learning to the world in which they live.

Goals:

✔ Students will attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in integrating social studies by drawing on knowledge from history, geography, and economics, as well as from the expressive arts and the humanities.

✔ Students will develop meaningful knowledge of the social world.

✔ Students will elicit a high level of student participation in the learning process.

Text:


Projects:

A research paper on a country from Asia, Africa, Australia, and or Europe.

Assessment:

Homework, classwork, pop quizzes, research paper, tests.
Spanish 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Patience Santos
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School: Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Como te va? constitutes the first level of an integrated secondary school Spanish curriculum. The course includes a broad variety of proficiency-building activities as well as supplementary cultural material. Emphasis is on plentiful practice and communication opportunities. Topics include an introduction to the Spanish-speaking world, greetings, numbers, time, date, weather, -“ar” verbs ser and estar verb conjugation.

Goals:

✓ Student will attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

✓ Students will acquire the language within the context of the contemporary Spanish-speaking world and its culture.

✓ Students will elicit a high level of student participation in the learning process.

Text:

¿Cómo te va?- Book A  Glencoe Publishing, 2004

Resources:

Spanish dictionary, expanded workbook

Projects:

Oral skits in Spanish

Assessment:

Homework, oral presentations, quizzes, tests
Spelling 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Jeff Palaszewski
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School: Old Mission School

Course Summary:

This spelling course emphasizes high-frequency words. The spelling instruction provides independence during instruction to ensure spelling independence beyond instruction. Spelling activities in the workbook provide motivation through variety. Students write the words, and other word forms, many times to build memorization and include the words in the context of writing in response to prompts. Review lessons are also included every five lessons to emphasize retention.

Goals:

- Students will successfully spell list words in a list and in the context of their writing.
- Students will successfully spell words at their level of instruction.
- Students will proofread, edit, and revise spelling words in written work.

Text:

Spelling Connections 6, Zaner-Bloser, 2000

Resources:

Dictionary

Assessment:

Weekly spelling tests. (Thursdays) workbook, and writing in response to prompts using spelling words.
Technology 6 Course Outline

Instructor: Margaret Arroyo  School: Old Mission School
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Course Summary:

Sixth Grade students learn and practice basic technological concepts including:

- Keyboarding skills using touch-typing applications
- Composing documents and using editing tools
- Use of online references for research
- Creating publications using publishing software
- Creating a multi-page student website using publishing software
- Perform authentic internet searches, differentiating between fact and fiction
- Standard concepts of internet fair use and copyright laws
- Use of the internet as an effective and safe homework resource
- Multi-media such as Movie Maker and Audacity
- Fundamentals of graphics manipulation
- Technology activities that reinforce classroom core curriculum

Goals:

- Students learn the fundamentals of safety on the internet
- Students learn to basic touch-typing skills, memorizing the location keys on the keyboard through interactive typing activities
- Students learn to differentiate between fact and fiction with regards internet searches
- Students learn advanced editing and formatting techniques in Word
- Create a website using publishing software
- Students learn to perform complex searches using safe search engines
- Create a computer movie incorporating sound and slide transitions
- Classroom core curriculum is reinforced through standards-aligned computer courseware

Assessment:

In-class assessment through direct observation