


John F. Kennedy Middle School		Course Outline	Grade Six
English &	Language Arts	Reading	Social Studies
<p><b><u>English Language Arts:</u></b> The English Language Arts curriculum in grade 6 at JFK middle school focuses students on the writing and language skills necessary for secondary writing.</p> <p><b><u>Writing:</u></b> The grade 6 English Language Arts curriculum addresses the foundation of three major writing genres: the narrative, the argument and the explanation. Over the course of the year, students will learn how these genres operate both with purpose and audience. Students will also practice strategies needed to outline and plan how to approach each of these text types with the appropriate writing components that support each genre. In English, as well as an in history, science and reading, students will repeatedly practice writing on different fiction and informational text based topics.</p>	<p><b><u>Language:</u></b> The ELA department at JFK middle school commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introducing students to the foundational elements of English syntax and usage</li> <li>• Integrating K-5 grammar and mechanics into grammar curriculums, focusing on mastery</li> <li>• Promote control of language as a resource for acquiring an academic language and vocabulary</li> <li>• Promote control of language based on text purpose and recipient audience</li> </ul> <p>Specifically, sixth grade students will focus on the following language goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of K-5 punctuation goals</li> <li>• Introduction to language usage as a function of writing, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjectives for description</li> <li>• Nouns: distinguishing proper, common and plural nouns; nouns for description; nouns and agreement</li> <li>• Introduction to the rules of commas</li> <li>• Introduction to pronouns</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The grade 6 reading curriculum addresses the foundational elements which contribute to fictional texts: character development, language resources to create setting, plot development and the major conflicts characters face in fiction. Students will read short texts as a way to study the development of these elements. As students of fiction, they will also learn to develop and strengthen the reading comprehension strategies that support students while reading fiction texts.</p> <p>Integrated units of study for both Reading and English Language Arts are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to fiction: short stories and short texts</li> <li>• Hero's Journey Coming of age: The introduction to the novel</li> <li>• Informational text unit</li> </ul>	<p><b>Social Studies Themes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map and globe skills</li> <li>• Geography terms and concepts</li> <li>• Components of culture</li> <li>• Five themes of geography</li> </ul> <p><u>Early People</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archaeology</li> <li>• Human beginnings</li> <li>• Nomads to farmers</li> <li>• Egypt and Mesopotamia</li> </ul>  <p><u>Africa</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political geography</li> <li>• Physical geography</li> <li>• Cultural geography</li> </ul> <p><u>Latin America</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political geography</li> <li>• Physical geography</li> <li>• Cultural geography</li> </ul>

Science	Mathematics		
<p>Earth &amp; Space Sciences</p> <p><b><u>Space Science</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring space</li> <li>• Earth, moon and sun</li> <li>• Our solar system</li> <li>• Stars, galaxies and the universe</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Earth's Surface</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Views of Earth today</li> <li>• Rocks and minerals</li> <li>• Weathering and soil formation</li> <li>• Erosion and deposition</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Life Science: Ecology</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecosystems and biomes</li> <li>• Interactions within ecosystems</li> <li>• Human impact on ecosystems</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Physical Sciences: Matter and Energy</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction and properties of matter</li> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Temperature and heat</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Waves, Sound, and Light</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waves</li> <li>• Sound</li> <li>• Electromagnetic waves</li> </ul> <p>Light and optics</p>	<p>The overarching objectives for mathematics in sixth grade are the Standards for Mathematical Practice from the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.</li> <li>• To reason abstractly and quantitatively.</li> <li>• To construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.</li> <li>• To model with mathematics.</li> <li>• To use appropriate tools strategically.</li> <li>• To attend to precision.</li> <li>• To look for and make use of structure.</li> <li>• To look for an express regularity in repeated reasoning.</li> </ul> <p>The major areas of study in 6<sup>th</sup> grade math are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ratios and Proportional Relationships.</b> Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">➤ Continued...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Number System</b> Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions.</li> </ul> <p>Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples.</p> <p>Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Expressions and Equations</b> Apply and extend previous understandings of Arithmetic to algebraic expressions.</li> </ul> <p>Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities.</p> <p>Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables</p> <p style="text-align: right;">➤ Continued</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Geometry</b> Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area and volume.</li> <li>• <b>Statistics &amp; Probability</b> Develop understanding of statistical variability.</li> <li>• Summarize and describe distributions.</li> </ul>

Physical Education	Exploratory Block	Special Education Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Intro to PE at JFK</li> <li>● Tactical Games</li> <li>● Heart Rate</li> <li>● Communication</li> <li>● Dance</li> <li>● Swimming</li> <li>● Cross Country Skiing</li> <li>● Snowshoeing</li> <li>● Health Assessment</li> <li>● Team and individual activities</li> </ul>	<p>Classes rotate every six weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● French</li> <li>● Art</li> <li>● Computers</li> <li>● Music</li> <li>● Spanish</li> <li>● Family &amp; Consumer Science</li> <li>● Technology Education Engineering</li> </ul>	<p><b>Inclusion:</b></p> <p>Inclusion classes in several subject areas are implemented according to the individual education plan (IEP). Both special education teachers and special education instructional assistants support students in the general education classroom.</p> <p><b>Intensive Instruction:</b></p> <p>For those students who require more specialized instruction, small classes of Mathematics, English Language Arts and Reading are offered as determined in an individual education plan.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">➤ Continued...</p>	<p><b>Strategies for Learning:</b></p> <p>In this course, content learning is supported with pre-teaching, re-teaching and parallel instruction. Students also receive support in understanding textbook material, preparing for tests or quizzes, breaking down and completing long term projects, writing essays and note taking techniques. This skill development helps students become more independent and successful learners in their regular education content classes. Students are eligible for participation in this course as a result of a special education TEAM meeting and an individual education plan. (IEP)</p>

English Language Learner Program			
<p>ESL- English as a second language</p> <p>or</p> <p>LEP -Limited English Proficiency</p> <p>• <b>ELL- Beginning English</b></p> <p>-Basic structures, pronunciation, and usage of American English</p> <p>-Speaking listening, reading and writing through guided practice with peers</p> <p>-American culture and adjusting to American schooling</p> <p>➤ Continued...</p>	<p>• <b>ELL- Intermediate English</b></p> <p>-Broad coverage of both everyday English and academic English</p> <p>-Structures and usage of American English through speaking, listening, reading and writing</p> <p>-American culture</p> <p>-Introduction to literature in English: kinds of writing, components of literature</p> <p>-Practice with the writing process</p> <p>➤ Continued...</p>	<p>• <b>ELL – Content Support</b></p> <p>-Help with the challenges of <i>other</i> classes: concepts and vocabulary of Science, Social Studies, Math, Reading, etc.</p> <p>-The language of American schools(for example, words used in giving directions on homework and tests)</p> <p>-Reading skills and strategies</p> <p>-encouraging students to think for themselves, developing confidence as they practice together</p>	

*This document outlines the current curriculum. It reflects changes mandated by the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. It is understood that curriculum development is ongoing and this document is subject to change. Sequence of CORE topics may vary. Revised (2/24/15)*

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