Parent Guide to Learning in MCCSC

SIXTH GRADE

A summary of what children should know and be able to do and ways for families to increase learning at home.
Each quarter, students will learn new skills and build upon skills from earlier in the year. Below are some areas students will focus on each quarter.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Learning Targets</th>
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| Quarter 1 | ● Use text evidence to explain and infer from a nonfiction text  
● Compare and contrast works of literature across genres or forms  
● Use correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling  
● Summarize a nonfiction text  
● Determine the meaning of unknown words and phrases  
● Provide textual evidence to explain what a fictional text says and infer from the text  
● Write arguments and informative compositions in a variety of forms using the writing process  |
| Quarter 2 | ● Analyze how a key individual, event, or ideas is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a nonfiction text  
● Determine an author’s perspective or purposed in a text, and explain how it is conveyed in the text  
● Identify and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text  
● Determine the meaning of unknown words and phrases to analyze the meaning and tone of literary text  
● Explain how a plot progresses and the characters change in a story  
● Analyze how part of a story or poem fits into the overall structure and how it helps develop meaning  
● Use known words, roots, prefixes, and suffixes to determine the meaning of an unknown word  
● Write arguments and informative compositions in a variety of forms using the writing process  |
| Quarter 3 | ● Use reasoning involving rates and ratios to model real-world problems  
● Divide multi-digit numbers fluently  
● Use positive fractions and decimals to solve real-world problems  
● Graph points on a plane and find distances between points  |
| Quarter 4 | ● Evaluate expressions using variables, exponents, and formulas  
● Define and use multiple variables when writing and evaluating expressions  
● Solve and represent equations as real-world problems  
● Write, graph, and solve an equation  
● Find the area of complex shapes  
● Find the volume of a right rectangular prism  |

### MATH

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<th>Learning Targets</th>
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| Quarter 1 | ● Compare and order rational numbers, plot them on a number line, and explain strategy  
● Convert between commonly used decimals, fractions, and percentages  
● Evaluate expressions using variables, exponents, and formulas  |
| Quarter 2 | ● Use reasoning involving rates and ratios to model real-world problems  
● Divide multi-digit numbers fluently  
● Use positive fractions and decimals to solve real-world problems  
● Graph points on a plane and find distances between points  |
| Quarter 3 | ● Evaluate expressions using variables, exponents, and formulas  
● Define and use multiple variables when writing and evaluating expressions  
● Solve and represent equations as real-world problems  
● Write, graph, and solve an equation  
● Find the area of complex shapes  
● Find the volume of a right rectangular prism  |
| Quarter 4 | ● Convert between measurement systems and use to solve real-world problems  
● Formulate statistical questions, and collect, organize, display, and interpret the data using technology  |
**SCIENCE**
Students learn about science through hands-on exploration. In sixth grade, students will learn about energy, ecology, waves, studying people scientifically, and exploring space and earth.

**MUSIC**
In music, students will expand upon what they learned in 5th grade with singing, reading and writing music, and playing instruments. In addition, they will experience music from various historical eras, world cultures, and contemporary American culture. They will also identify and explore various careers related to music.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
In PE, students demonstrate motor skills and movement patterns and concepts, exhibit respectful and responsible personal and social behavior, and learn the value of physical activity. They also achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
In social studies, sixth graders learn about world cultures, colonial and revolutionary America, industrial expansion, and the Civil War and Reconstruction.

**ART**
In art class, students develop and refine artistic techniques and work, combine concepts collaboratively to generate innovative ideas for creating art, and reflect on whether personal artwork conveys the intended meaning.

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING**
MCCSC is using the Second Step curriculum with our elementary school students. The program provides age-appropriate lessons to teach important skills, such as how to disagree respectfully, be assertive, and recognize and respond to bullying. Videos and class discussions engage students and offer strategies for solving problems, identifying hopes, and making plans.
USEFUL LINKS

Indiana Department of Education Academic Standards
https://www.doe.in.gov/standards

MCCSC Curriculum and Instruction
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/42

MCCSC Special Education
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/53

MCCSC High Ability
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/62

MCCSC School Age Care
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/64

SIXTH GRADE DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

- Often behave best when away from home
- Love challenge of competition; prefer team sports and getting better at playing as a team
- Need adult empathy, humor, and sensitivity to help them cope with changing minds and bodies
- Moody, self-absorbed, and sensitive
- Like to challenge rules, argue, and test limits; may be cruel; sometimes physically aggressive
- Desire to test limits and rules is important developmental milestone
- Worry more about who’s “in” and who’s “out” than when they were younger
- Need lots of time to talk with peers; heavy use of cell phone and social media
- Impulsive—often talk before thinking
- Have trouble making decisions
- “Saving face” is important; not necessary for adults to “win” arguments—giving children private, physical space to think things over helps resolve problems peacefully

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Build a routine that allows for homework and studying time and enough sleep to help your child establish a healthy balance.
- Listen with your child to a television reporter, politician, or other speaker. Ask your child to tell you the speaker’s main points. Was the speaker trying to convince the audience of something? How?
- Invite your child to participate in an adult gathering, such as a meal with friends, to practice listening skills and making conversation.
- Encourage your child to keep a journal. When your child finds a passion topic, have them write about it in a relevant way. For example, write letters to favorite authors, write letters to publications about articles or even try and submit an article to a local publication or website.
- When you encounter math in your life, show your child how you solved the relevant math equation or have him assist you in solving it. This may occur in areas such as changing the measurements in recipes, computations having to do with creating and working with a budget, figuring out distances when traveling or sales prices when shopping, or data collection or analysis.