

Applewild School

Curriculum Guide

2016-2017



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As you consider school options, the curriculum a school adopts reveals a great deal about its priorities. You will discover that Applewild's is in alignment with our determination to provide both a strong foundation in the basics and to enhance that with what we consider to be essential offerings that broaden and deepen students' understanding of the world and capacity to make connections and continue their development as learners.

The attached guide, therefore, provides you with a brief overview. Many considerations play into a family's choice: atmosphere; partnership among student, parents and school; quality of faculty; and range of offerings are all strengths of Applewild. In addition, our impressive track record of preparing our students for success in secondary school, and our carefully crafted curriculum are important reasons why families choose our school.

At the same time, please understand that our curriculum is not set in stone. Our faculty is encouraged to use it as a clear, coherent guide that each year may alter based on individual faculty or student talents, interests, strengths, and weaknesses. In that sense it is organic and honors our teachers' creative ability and knowledge of their students.

Every year we also take a careful look at our curriculum in one or two specific disciplines. We do this on a five year cycle so that each discipline receives a thorough K – 8 review every five years. This assures that our curriculum remains challenging and current, that gaps and overlaps in content and skills have not crept into the sequence, and that each discipline is up-to-date in terms of standards and current pedagogy.

As intentional as we are about reviewing our curriculum regularly, we are not prone to fads. Most of our teachers have years of valuable experience, and they are current about innovations. They incorporate the best of both to assure our students leave Applewild well prepared for the next step and excited about learning.

Christie Stover
Head of School

APPLEWILD SCHOOL

The magic at Applewild derives from a coherent, intentional plan in which our Core Values are interwoven with our Core Competencies.

Core Values

The tone, the values we promote, and the relationships among all members of the Applewild community profoundly influence the academic climate and set the stage for all we teach and learn. Children and adults go through developmental stages and our personal growth is an evolving process. Our Core Values are the basis of our relationships to each other as adults and students.

Citizens of the Applewild School community uphold the following values:

To be:

- Respectful*** To exhibit courteous regard for oneself, others and property.
- Fair*** To demonstrate impartial and thoughtful behavior and decision making.
- Responsible*** To be reliable, dependable and accountable in word and deed.
- Compassionate*** To be empathetic, sympathetic and to demonstrate acts of kindness.
- Cooperative*** To work together toward common goals.
- Honest*** To be truthful in words and actions.
- Civic-Minded*** To actively participate in promoting the well-being of the community.

Core Competencies

Our Core Competencies strengthen and guide our developmental approach and unite us as a community of learners who are actively involved in and responsible for our growth. Students graduate from Applewild as accomplished young people who know how they learn. They are poised to accept the challenge of rigorous academic work and are confident that they can make a difference in the world.

Throughout our Applewild curriculum, therefore, we are teaching our students to:

- Be Reflective*** To know oneself and one's strengths; to decide how to use that knowledge effectively in a learning environment and the world
- Think Critically***
- Communicate*** To independently consider, connect, and extend knowledge and understanding; to be open-minded, flexible problem solvers able to distinguish fact from opinion and identify bias.
- Create***
- Persevere***
- Collaborate*** To express oneself effectively in a variety of modes, listen carefully to others, and be empathetic.

- To cultivate the innate sense of wonder and imagination by doing: design, develop, build, produce, generate, perform.

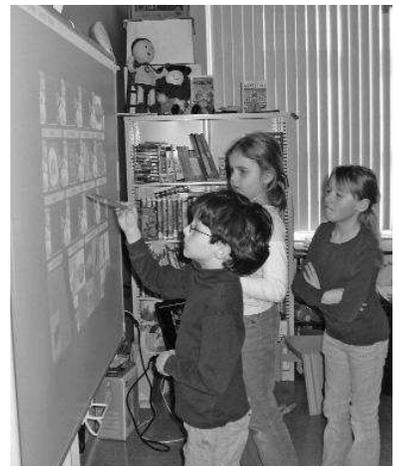
- To continue pursuits of value even in the face of adversity, and to know when to ask for help. To participate actively, share responsibility, and celebrate group accomplishments.

KINDERGARTEN

<p>Language Arts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Decoding and phonics -Classroom news charts -Books and stories -Weekly library class -Literature appreciation • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Transitional spelling, phonemic awareness -Experience charts, journaling, creative writing, (including through dictation) -Upper and lower case letters -Penmanship skills • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Oral communication skills, language development -Listening skills -Following directions -Vocabulary building 	<p>History & Social Studies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar • Holidays • Transportation • Map study • Geographical terms • Self-awareness and family awareness • Communication skills • Special guests • Theme studies • Applewild Builds Character • Native Americans • Democracy • Civic-mindedness • Values discussions • Historical, international and faith-based celebrations of light
<p>Math</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position, location, sorting and classifying of objects • Graphing and patterning • Numbers 0 through 31: number words and symbols; ordinal, benchmark and calendar numbers • Measurement: length, capacity, weight, temperature • Time concepts • Money • Geometry • Fractions • Readiness for addition and subtraction • Understanding addition • Understanding subtraction • Counting and number patterns to 100 • Problem-solving skills • Cooking 	<p>Science</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seasons • Weather • Environment • Nutrition • Animal, plant, and insect life • The senses • Conservation • Nature walk
<p>Visual Arts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imagination • Creativity • Drawing • Painting • Clay • Collage • Woodworking • Artists in history • Literature/Art • Color Theory • Sculpture 	<p>Performing Arts</p>	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing • Speech • Listening • Circle activities • Playing of instruments • Rhythm <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance • Role playing • Movement
<p>Physical Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay activities • Group and individual games • Body control • Hiking • Basic game skills • Listening skills • Movement games • Cardiovascular activities • Rhythm and movement • Hopping/skipping • Throwing • Catching • Balance • Emphasis on teamwork and sportsmanship 	<p>Personal and Social</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict resolution • Maintain self-control • Respond to adult direction • Express emotions appropriately • Self-confidence and self-image • Cooperation • Develop new friendships • Make independent decisions
<p>Physical Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay activities • Group and individual games • Body control • Hiking • Basic game skills • Listening skills • Movement games • Cardiovascular activities • Rhythm and movement • Hopping/skipping • Throwing • Catching • Balance • Emphasis on teamwork and sportsmanship 	<p>Work Habits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in group • Working independently • Taking care of materials and property • Responsibility for self and others • Making transitions • Sharing attention • Understanding and following directions • Active listening • Remaining on task

	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE	THIRD GRADE
Language Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills -Decoding and phonics -Leveled texts -Trade books -<i>Time for Kids</i> Magazine -Literature appreciation • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Inventive spelling, phonics, trick words -Creative Writing, journaling -Penmanship skills • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Listening skills -Grammar -Vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills -Decoding and phonics -Leveled texts -Trade books -Independent reading -Literature appreciation -Study skills • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing (Thematic books: character traits, Social Studies, Winter Celebrations) -Spelling, phonics, trick words -Creative Writing, journaling -Penmanship skills • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Listening skills -Dictionary skills -Grammar -Vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills: literal and interpretive -Decoding and phonics -Leveled texts -Trade books -Independent reading -Literature appreciation -Research skills -Study skills • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Spelling, phonics, trick words -Creative Writing, expository writing, journaling -Penmanship skills: cursive handwriting • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Listening skills -Dictionary and thesaurus skills -Grammar -Vocabulary
History & Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holiday & Celebrations from around the world with emphasis on maps/globes mapping skills • School as a community • Neighborhood community • Fitchburg community • Celebrations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Luther King Earth Day Presidents' Day Thanksgiving • Current Events • Monthly Lower School themes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back to school customs around the world • Government & Citizenship • Multicultural Holiday Celebrations • Map skills - Jr. Atlas • Black History/Women's History/President's Month • Patriotic symbols • Immigration and Citizenship • Current Events • Monthly Lower School themes • Living Wax Museum research project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colonial America, westward expansion • Related creative projects • Study skills • Map and globe skills • Daily geography • Research skills - presidents • Written and oral communication skills • Black History (Martin Luther King, Jr.) • Pre-American Revolutionary Events • Timelines, cutaways or cross sections • Current Events – TFK • Monthly Lower School themes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to Plymouth - Pilgrims & Wampanoags
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patterns and readiness for addition • Patterns and readiness for subtraction • Strategies for addition facts to 12 • Strategies for subtraction facts to 12 • Geometry and fractions • Time • Counting to 100 • Place value, data and graphs • Money • Measurement and probability • Addition and subtraction facts to 18 • Two-digit addition and subtraction • Problem-solving with explanation of strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding addition and subtraction • Fact strategies for addition and subtraction • Place value to 100 and money • Mental math: addition and subtraction • Two-digit addition • Two-digit subtraction • Geometry and fractions • Time, data and graphs • Measurement and probability • Numbers to 1,000 • Addition and subtraction of three-digit numbers • Understanding multiplication • Problem-solving with explanation of strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place value and money • Addition and subtraction number sense • Adding and subtracting • Time, data and graphs • Multiplication concepts and facts • Division concepts and facts • Geometry and measurement • Fractions and measurement • Decimals and measurement • Multiplying and dividing greater numbers • Measurement and probability • Problem-solving with explanation of strategies

	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
Language Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills: literal and interpretive -Phonics reinforcement -Independent reading with book reports and projects -Great American Reading Project -Literature appreciation -Research skills -Study skills -Interdisciplinary connections -Possible selection of books: <i>Frindle, So Far From Home, Look to the Hills, Bright Freedom's Song, Immigrant Kids</i>, and other selected trade books • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Spelling, phonics, trick words -Creative Writing, expository writing, journaling -Critical Thinking -Penmanship skills: cursive handwriting • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Listening skills -Dictionary and thesaurus skills -Grammar and Mechanics -Vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills -Independent reading with book reports and projects -Literature appreciation -Research skills -Study skills -Interdisciplinary connections -Possible selection of books: <i>Tuck Everlasting, Bridge to Terabithia, Wolves of Willoughby Chase, In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson</i> and other selected trade books • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Creative Writing, expository writing, journaling -Poetry unit -Critical Thinking • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Dictionary and thesaurus skills -Grammar and Mechanics -Vocabulary
History & Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography: World and US <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U.S. land forms, regions, and states - map and globe skills - National Geography Bee • U.S .History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French and Indian War - The American Revolution - Industrial Revolution - Underground Railroad/Growth of a Nation/Civil War - Immigration • Current events • Research skills • Communication skills: written and oral • Study skills • Interdisciplinary connections • Great American Reading Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient cultures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - China - Egypt - Greece - Mesopotamia - India - Rome • World religions • Current events • Time lines • Map and globe skills • Research skills • Interpersonal skills • Communication skills: written and oral • Study skills • National Geography Bee • Interdisciplinary connections
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place value and money • Adding and subtracting whole numbers and money • Multiplication and division concepts and facts • Time, data and graphs • Multiplying by one-digit numbers • Multiplying by two-digit numbers • Dividing • Geometry and measurement • Fraction concepts • Fraction operations and customary measurement • Decimals and metric measurement • Graphing and probability • Problem-solving with explanation of strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place value, adding and subtracting • Multiplying whole numbers and decimals • Dividing with one-digit divisors • Dividing with two-digit divisors • Data, graphs and probability • Geometry • Fraction concepts • Fraction operations • Measurement • Measuring solids • Ratio, proportion and percent • Algebra: integers, equations and graphing • Problem-solving with explanation of strategies



	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE	THIRD GRADE
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring materials • Guided observations • Use of lab equipment • Recording data • Inquiry based hands-on activities • Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - plant life - liquids and solids - air and weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring materials • Guided observations • Use of lab equipment • Recording data • Inquiry based hands-on activities • Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - balance and motion - insects - sand, silt, and soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring materials • Guided observations • Use of lab equipment • Recording data • Inquiry based hands-on activities • Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - human body - electricity and magnetism - earth materials • Nature journals • Herb garden
Foreign Language	<p>FRENCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flex program • Total Physical Response (TPR) method of instruction • Vocabulary • Weather • Greetings • Numbers 1-100 • Simple addition and subtraction • Colors • Parts of the body • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - simple adjectives - prepositions - simple commands 	<p>FRENCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flex program • Total Physical Response (TPR) method of instruction • Vocabulary • Weather • Greetings • Numbers 1-100 • Simple addition and subtraction • Colors • Parts of the body • Foods and expressions • Speaking in the negative • Classroom furniture • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - simple adjectives - prepositions - simple commands 	<p>FRENCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flex program • Total Physical Response (TPR) method of instruction • Vocabulary • Weather • Greetings • Numbers 1-100 • Simple addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division • Colors • Parts of the body & bones • Foods and expressions • Speaking in the negative • Classroom furniture • Days of the week • Months of the year • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - simple commands - adjectives and prepositions - use of avoir & être - subject pronouns
Performing Arts	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing • Movement • Ear training • Playing of instruments • Pre-notation • Notation • Performances • Applesseed Chorus <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurythmics/Movement • Mime • Improvisation • Imagination • Elementary stage craft • Spring performance • Process Drama/Character creation • Voice production, diction 	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing • Movement • Ear training • Playing of instruments • Note reading • Performances • Applesseed Chorus <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurythmics/Movement • Mime • Improvisation • Imagination • Elementary stage craft • Monologues and dialogues • Spring performance • Process Drama/Character creation • Voice production, diction 	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing • Movement • Ear training • Playing of instruments • Note reading • Performances • Applesseed Chorus <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurythmics/Movement • Mime • Improvisation • Imagination • Elementary stage craft • Monologues and dialogues • Reading • Lead roles in a performance • Process Drama/Character creation • Voice production, diction

	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry-based program • Multimedia activities • Field trips, guest speakers • Properties of water in 3 states • Components of the water cycle • Water quality and use • Conservation • The physics of sound • Ear anatomy and health • Pitch, frequency, and amplitude • Construct musical instruments • Ideas and Inventions • Chromatography, rubbings, carbon printing • Invention Convention • Nashua River Watershed Assoc. • Nature journals • Constructing models • Cross-curricular field trips -Tsongas Industrial History Center • Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry-based curriculum • Solar energy • Energy transfer • Orientation and shadows • Solar water heaters/cookers • Solar houses/ "green" architecture • Alternative energy sources • Applying mathematics in context of science • Multimedia NASA-based curriculum • Christa McAuliffe challenger Center • The Solar System • Research projects • Concept of variable and system • Controlled experiments • Record, graph, and analyze data • Write lab reports • Nature journals • Garden
Foreign Language	<p>FRENCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Physical Response (TPR) method of teaching • Vocabulary • Weather • Greetings • Numbers: 1-100 • Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division • Colors • Parts of the body • Simple commands • Foods • Speaking in the negative • Furniture in the classroom • Days of the week • Months of the year • French Revolution • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - simple adjectives and prepositions - verb conjugation avoir &e tre, regular verbs 	<p>FRENCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Physical Response (TPR) method of teaching • Vocabulary • Weather • Greetings • Numbers: 1-100 • Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division • Colors • Parts of the body • Simple commands • Foods • Speaking in the negative • Days of the week • Months of the year • Expressions • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - simple adjectives and prepositions - subject pronouns - definite and indefinite articles - verb conjugation, all regular verbs
Performing Arts	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to music theory • Singing • Movement • Music appreciation • Ear training • Perform on recorders • Playing of instruments • Intro to improvisation • Performances • Recorder class • Apple Chorus • Practice skills <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theatre Games & Skills • 4th Grade Play 	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Theory • Practical skills • Small group instrumental lessons • Singing • Movement • Music appreciation • Ear training • Perform on band instruments • Move and perform in rhythm • Improvisation • Play songs by ear • Apple Chorus • Beginner band class • Improvisation <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice technique • Character creation • Study of dramatic structure • Performance skills • Improvisation skills • Perform end of semester play



	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE	THIRD GRADE
Visual Arts	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of design • Art appreciation and observation • Painting: tempera and watercolor • Finger painting • Mixed media • Collage • Basic color mixing • Texture exploration • Sculpture: clay-wire • Artists in history • Literature/Art • Color Theory • Sculpture <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project selection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small wooden toys • Hand tools • Safe shop behavior • Basic measurement skills • Abrasives and adhesives • Stains and finishes • Geometric shapes 	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of design • Art appreciation and observation • Painting: tempera and watercolor • Mixed media • Still-life collage • Basic color theory • Mask making: paper maché • Texture: styrofoam printing • Sculpture • Clay: hand building and glazing • Artists in history • Literature/Art • Color Theory • Sculpture <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project selection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - transportation vehicles • Hand tools • Safe shop behavior • Basic measurement skills • Abrasives and adhesives • Stains and finishes • Transportation methods 	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of design • Art appreciation and observation • Painting: tempera and watercolor • Mixed media • Contour drawing • Basic color theory • Sculpture: clay, wire, wood and plaster • Mask making • Artists in history • Literature/Art • Color Theory • Sculpture <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project selection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - musical instruments • Hand tools • Safe shop behavior • Measurement skills • Abrasives and adhesives • Stains and finishes
Physical Education & Health Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic game skills • Locomotive skills • Simple team games • Individual and partner games • Body control activities • Fitness Skills • Emphasis on teamwork and sportsmanship • Outdoor sports • Manipulation Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of new skills • Challenging organizational games • Individual and partner games • Introduce new equipment • Body control activities • Fitness Skills • Emphasis on teamwork and sportsmanship • Outdoor sports • Motor Skills • Manipulation Skills • Locomotive skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on rules and procedures of various sports • Team games • Individual and partner games • Continued use of new equipment • Body strengthening • Flexibility activities • Fitness Skills • Emphasis on teamwork and sportsmanship • Outdoor sports • Locomotive skills
Library & Computer	<p>Students in grades one through three attend weekly library classes designed to extend the classroom curriculum. During library time books, stories and activities are used to support classroom activities and assignments. Students are introduced to the library's sources of information such as the computerized catalog, reference books, periodical databases, CD-Rom, and limited online sources.</p> <p>The school's computer labs as well as classroom computers are used primarily for curriculum-based projects.</p>		
Special Events & Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring dramatic performance • Lower School field trip • Thanksgiving celebration • Teddy Bear Picnic • <i>Apple Blossom</i> – a publication of Lower School students' creative writing • Cross-curricular/cross-grade theme • Holiday concert • Spring concert • Community service: Reading Buddies at Head Start 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring dramatic performance • Lower School field trip • Thanksgiving celebration • Teddy Bear Picnic with Upper School buddies • <i>Apple Blossom</i> – a publication of Lower School students' creative writing • Cross-curricular/cross-grade theme • Holiday concert • Spring concert • Community service: "Grandfriends" at Highlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plimoth Plantation • Colonial cooking in Concord • Spring dramatic performance • Book publishing • Lower School field trip • Thanksgiving celebration • Teddy Bear Picnic with Upper School buddies • <i>Apple Blossom</i> – a publication of Lower School students' creative writing • Cross-curricular/cross-grade theme • Holiday concert • Spring concert • Community service: ARC buddies

	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE	
Visual Arts	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles and elements of art Art appreciation and observation Painting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on shape, color, and composition Art history & appreciation Mixed media Sculpture Hand building techniques Glazing Study of mask cultures Artists in history Literature/Art Color Theory <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project selection Project planning Hand tools Advanced measurement skills Shop safety Adhesives and abrasives Patterns Stains and finishes 	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles and elements of art Principles of design Ceramics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> marks coil pots glazing Printing Mixed media Art history and appreciation Study of mask cultures Artists in history Literature/Art Color Theory <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project selection Project planning Species of wood Common defects in lumber Shop safety Layout and measurement tools Basic shop hand tools Adhesives and abrasives Stains and finishes 	
Physical Education & Health Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical education class Intramural Sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> soccer field hockey basketball lacrosse Teamwork Sportsmanship Introduction of skills and strategies for team sports Green and White intramural competition Fitness testing Cooperative learning Health/Great Body Shop curriculum Jump Rope for Heart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical education class Emphasis on skill building Teamwork Sportsmanship Green and White intramural competition Intramural sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> soccer field hockey basketball lacrosse Health/Great Body Shop curriculum Fitness testing Cooperative learning Jump Rope for Heart 	
Library & Computer	<p>Library time is scheduled on an as-needed basis to support classroom activities and assignments. Students learn how to access information through the computerized library catalog, reference books, periodical databases, CD-Rom, and limited online sources.</p> <p>Fourth and fifth graders have library class once a week.</p> <p>The school's computer labs as well as classroom computers are used primarily for curriculum-based projects. Computer instruction is by design integrated in the curriculum of each grade. The students work on and develop the following skills: key boarding, analytical/critical thinking, word processing, spreadsheets, drawing, painting, and creating. Productivity, software programs, internet.</p>		
Special Events & Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Sturbridge Village Lowell Mills - Historical Park Winterfest Science Invention Fair Math Olympiad (optional) Buddies with Applewild Eighth graders Teddy Bear Picnic Lower School Theme: Applewild Builds Citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fitchburg Art Museum or Worcester Art Museum Seacoast Science Center Christa McAuliffe Center Winterfest Math Olympiad (optional) Buddies with Applewild Kindergartners Teddy Bear Picnic Lower School Theme: Applewild Builds Citizenship 	

	SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Language Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills -Literature appreciation -Genre studies- realistic fiction, science fiction, historical fiction, drama -Independent reading -Study skills -Possible selection of books: <i>Seedfolks, The Last Book in the Universe, The Giver, Among the Hidden, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Anna of Byzantium</i> • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Expository writing, creative writing, journaling, literary essay -Critical Thinking • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Poetry Alive -Grammar and Mechanics -Vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills -Literature appreciation -Independent reading -Range of genres -Possible selection of books: <i>The Pearl, The Outsiders, Farewell to Manzanar, Romeo and Juliet</i> -selected poetry • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Expository writing, creative writing, journaling, book reviews, literary essay, poetry project -Critical Thinking • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Public Speaking/Poetry Alive -Grammar and Mechanics -Vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Comprehension skills -Literature appreciation -Independent reading -Range of genres -Selection of books: <i>The Diary of a Young Girl, To Kill a Mockingbird, Night, Macbeth, Black Boy</i>, selected poetry, selected short stories • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brainstorming, writing, editing, revising, and publishing -Expository writing, journaling, book reviews, literary essay -Critical Thinking • Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication skills -Public Speaking/Poetry Alive -Grammar and Mechanics -Vocabulary
History & Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Byzantine and Muslim civilizations - Civilizations of Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe - Medieval World • Notetaking • Map and globe skills • Research skills • Interpersonal skills • Study skills • Communication skills: written and oral • National Geography Bee • Interdisciplinary connections • Current Events • Student Research Project 	<p>WORLD GEOGRAPHY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five themes of geography • National Geography Bee • Current events program • Junior Scholastic Magazine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - used as supplement to text • Country travel research project • Economics and world trade issues • Connections to Appalachian Mountain Club trip • Connections with Unicef/Oxfam • Films & videos • John Collins Writing 	<p>UNITED STATES HISTORY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themes: government and civics, social developments, conflict and resolution • Research Skills - creating a bibliography and citing sources • National Geography Bee • Participation in National History Day (individual and group projects, documentaries, web pages, performance and papers) • Current events program • Chronological Approach use of Historic Novel • Junior Scholastic Magazine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - used as supplement to text • Films & videos • John Collins Writing
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers, expressions and equations • Decimals • Number theory and fraction concepts • Adding and subtracting fractions • Multiplying and dividing fractions • Ratio, rates and proportion • Percent • Geometry • Measurement • Data, graphs and probability • Extended problem-solving • NEML contest 	<p>PRE-ALGEBRA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variables, expressions and integers • Solving equations and inequalities • Factors and exponents • Rational numbers • Ratios and proportions • Percents • Linear functions • Real numbers and right triangles • Measurement, area and volume • Data analysis and statistics • Probability • Angle relationships • Extended problem-solving • AMC-8 	<p>ALGEBRA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of real numbers • Linear equations and inequalities • Systems of linear equations and inequalities • Exponents and exponential functions • Quadratic equations and functions • Polynomials and factoring • Rational equations and functions • Radicals • Extended problem-solving • AMC – 8

	SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory and activity based program • Constructing models • Note taking skills • Characteristics of Living Things • Cells – structure and function • Cell processes • DNA – structure and function • Genetics • Evolution • Fossils • Classification of Living Things • Rocks and Minerals • The rock cycle • Relative dating of rocks and fossils • Volcanoes • Plate tectonics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory and activity-based program • Measurement skills • Metric system • Data recording and analysis • Properties and classification of matter • Chemical and physical changes • Mixtures, elements, and compounds • Atomic structure • Design and use of the Periodic Table • Motion • Newton’s Laws of Motion • Computer based labs • Research process skills • Production of a Podcast • Constructing models • Robotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory and activity-based program • Ecosystems and their parts • Interactions among producers, consumers, and decomposers • Energy flow in an ecosystem • Flow of matter through an ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - application to gardening and sustainability • Adaptations and evolution • Ecological succession • Heat energy • Solution chemistry • Acid-base chemistry • Chemical reactions • Chemical bonds • Human sexuality • Environmental issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Global warming - Invasive species • Sustainability • Research process skills • Argumentative essay writing

	SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Visual Arts	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Design I • Artist/writers notebook • Elements and principals of art • Painting • Drawing • Collage • Color theory • Ceramic tiles • Art history & appreciation • Museum trips <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project planning • Species of woods • Common defects in lumber • Shop safety • Layout and measurement tools • Basic shop hand tools • Stains and finishes • Basic drafting 	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual design II • Artist/writers notebook • Elements and principals of design • Drawing • Painting • Perspective • Calligraphy • Digital photography • Art history & appreciation • Art mentor option <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to power equipment • Maintenance of Hand & Power Tools • Project Selection/Project Planning • Selection of wood • Methods of wood jointing - traditional & modern • Application of Furniture Building • Glues & fasteners • Shop Mentor option 	<p>ART:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed media including: Sculpture/pottery/wheel • Elements & principals of 3D design • Portfolio requirement options • Art museum visits • Art mentor option • Artist/writers notebook <p>SHOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project selection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - machine-oriented furniture making • Safe power machine operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - radial arm saw - jointer and planer - table saw - band saw - drill press • Project planning • Adhesives and abrasives • Stains and finishes • Assembly methods • Shop Mentor Option
Performing Arts	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement • Music appreciation • Practice Skills • Small group instrumental lessons • Perform on band instruments • Rehearse as a band • Improvise on instruments • Note reading • Rhythm reading • Memorize melodies • Music theory • American Music Ensemble <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice technique • Character creation • Study of dramatic structure • Performance skills • Improvisation skills • Physical technique • Sixth grade Shakespeare play 	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group instrumental lesson • Music history • Music appreciation • National music • American ethnic music • Music theory • Perform on band and orchestral instruments and piano option • Rehearse and perform as a band • Note and rhythm reading • Memorize melodies • After-school jazz band • All-district band/chorus • American Music Ensemble • Improvisation <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Play (7th & 8th) Option • Music in theater (Semester course) • Scene study (Semester course) • Voice technique • Physical technique • Study of dramatic structure • Character creation • Improvisation skills • Performance skills 	<p>MUSIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guitar instruction (option) • Perform on band and orchestral instruments and piano • Rehearse and perform as a band • Note and rhythm reading • After-school jazz band • All-district band • American music ensemble • Upper School chorus • Improvisation <p>DRAMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvisation (Semester course) • Music Lab (Semester course) • Voice technique • Physical technique • Study of dramatic structure • Character creation • Improvisation skills • Performance skills • Winter Play (7th & 8th) Option • Technical theatre

	SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interscholastic sports option • Teamwork and sportsmanship • Sport specific skills • Strength and conditioning training • Girls sports options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varsity girls soccer - varsity and j.v. field hockey - varsity cross country - varsity and j.v. lacrosse - sport climbing - outdoor activities - indoor activities • Boys sports options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varsity cross country - varsity and j.v. soccer - varsity and j.v. basketball - varsity and j.v. lacrosse - sport climbing - outdoor activities - indoor activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interscholastic sports program • Teamwork and sportsmanship • Sport specific skills • Strength and conditioning training • Girls sports options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varsity girls soccer - varsity and j.v. field hockey - varsity cross country - varsity and j.v. basketball - varsity and j.v. lacrosse - sport climbing - outdoor activities - indoor activities • Boys sports options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varsity cross country - varsity and j.v. soccer - varsity and j.v. basketball - varsity and j.v. lacrosse - sport climbing - outdoor activities - indoor activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interscholastic sports program • Teamwork and sportsmanship • Sport specific skills • Strength and conditioning training • Individual and team strategy • Emphasis on leadership and responsibility • Girls sports options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varsity girls soccer - varsity and j.v. field hockey - varsity cross country - varsity and j.v. basketball - varsity and j.v. lacrosse - sport climbing - outdoor activities - indoor activities • Boys sports options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varsity and j.v. soccer - varsity cross country - varsity and j.v. basketball - varsity and j.v. lacrosse - sport climbing - outdoor activities - indoor activities
Library & Computer	<p>In grades 6, 7, and 8 library time is scheduled on an as-needed basis to support classroom activities and assignments. Students learn how to access information through the computerized library catalog, reference books, periodical databases, CD-Rom, and limited online sources.</p> <p>The school's computer labs as well as classroom computers are used primarily for curriculum-based projects. Computer instruction is by design integrated in the curriculum of each grade. The students work on and develop the following skills: key boarding, analytical/critical thinking, word processing, drawing, painting, and creating.</p> <p>The following are examples of how computers are incorporated into the Upper School curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language lab for French and Latin • Lab reports in science • Adam and Virtual frog dissection CD's for biology • Research for all areas • Music history and theory • Digital Photography • Geometer's Sketchpad, First in Math, and spreadsheets in Math • Writing lab in English • Current events and mapping for geography and history 		
Special Events & Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higgins Armory Museum • Advisory • Buddy Program • Student Council • Service Learning and Community Service • Camp Chewonki • Fitchburg Art Museum • National Latin Exam • S'More Math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation trip to Appalachian Mountain Club • Mentor programs • Lower School Buddy Program • Service learning & Community Service opportunities • Student Council • Advisory Program • Public Speaking • Evening social events • Poetry Alive • S'More Math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation trip to Washington, D.C • Mentor programs • Lower School Buddy Program • Service learning & Community Service opportunities • Student Council • Public Speaking • Evening social events • Advisory Program • Poetry Alive • History Day • S'More Math

	SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Foreign Language Grades Sixth - Eighth	<p>LATIN: Introduction to languages Grammar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Names <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gender and Latin endings • Numbers • Adjectives and adjective agreement • Word order • Inflection • Nominative and accusative cases • Subjects agreeing with verbs • Derivatives, prefixes and suffixes • Simple interrogatives • Latin expressions used in English • Concepts of person, number and infinitives • Conjugations • The four principal parts of a Latin verb (Intro.) • The verb To Be, and linking verbs • Vocabulary <p>Roman culture and background material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rome: the Empire, its language, its people • Colosseum • Schools • The Baths • Roman dress • Chariot races • Gladiators • Roads <p>Text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The phenomenon of language <p>Other resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Lab computer programs • Lost Civilizations: Rome [Time Life] • Roman City [PBS] • Videos • Language games 	<p>SPANISH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - greetings, introductions and saying goodbyes - foods - likes/dislikes - occupations - family - descriptions: colors and personal characteristics - city and town life/directions - asking for and telling time • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - indefinite and definite articles - present tense - subject pronouns - agreement and placement of adjectives - informal and formal commands - ser vs. estar • Cultural pieces on Latin America and Spain • Literature: <i>Las Aventuras de Miguel ito</i> • National Spanish Exam <p>LATIN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language lab • Vocabulary • Read and translate simple Latin sentences and passages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present tense, 1st-4th conjugation verbs - Nouns, all cases, 1st-3rd declension - Adjectives, 1st-3rd declension - Irregular verbs: sum, possum, nolo, volo, eo - Ablative and accusative constructions - Demonstratives: Is, Hic, Ille • Basic Roman history and culture • Text: <i>Oxford Latin Course Book I</i> • Other materials: videos/film strips; computer software and board games • National Latin Exam • Language games • Archaeology project 	<p>SPANISH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cities and towns/transportation - Shopping (items and cost) - sports and leisure activities - comparing people and things • Grammar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - present, preterite, present progressive, imperfect and future tenses - adverbs and prepositions used with past tenses - affirmative and negative commands • Cultural pieces on Latin America and Spain • Literature: <i>Don Quijote de la Mancha Graphic novel</i> • National Spanish Exam <p>LATIN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language lab • Vocabulary • Read and translate simple Latin sentences and passages • Review of 7th grade grammar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - imperfect, perfect, pluperfect, & future tenses - 4 principal parts - cardinal & ordinal numbers - expressions of time and the locative case - 4th & 5th declension nouns • Comparison of adjectives and adverbs • Present participles • Relative clauses • National Latin Exam • Other materials: videos/film strips; computer software and board games • Pen Pal program conducted in Latin (via e-mail) with foreign schools • Text: <i>Oxford Latin Course Book II</i> • Language games



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