

Dear Sixth Grade Parents:

I hope this letter finds you in good spirits, enjoying the summer weeks and looking forward to soon sending your child into the new school year!

Your child will need the following for the sixth grade:

- A backpack or book bag
- A ceramic mug (unless one got left here at the end of last year) Please do not send water bottles. They have a tendency to get gross and I can't see what's in them easily.
- Calculator, nothing special!

Optionals:

- Seat pillow
- Tiny desk plant (last year they really seemed to like these!)
- Rain gear to leave on hook in case unexpected rain appears
- Personal pencils and pens, if desired
- Personal pencil sharpener (ours have a tendency to get dull or broken quickly)
- Quality compass (I will have these available, but they aren't super high quality)

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

- White out paint stuff
- Markers
- School supplies that look like toys (sandwich/rollerskate/doll erasers, humongus pencils, anything with a feather on it, anything that makes a noise other than normal school supply style noises, anything with a bouncy spring, etc)

I would also like to take a moment to let you know the volunteer opportunities. I am in need of:

- Two volunteer coordinators
- Play helpers
- A weekly rag washer
- A handwork reader
- A weekly or bi-weekly cleaning helper (our room gets kinda grody!)

I will stop here for now. I'll pass around a volunteer sign up sheet at the first parent meeting, which corresponds with the all school meeting night.

I'm including the school year overview! Let me know if you have any questions. My email address is susanaromatz@eugenevillageschool.org. I look forward to meeting you and your children. Here's to a great year!

6th Grade Curriculum Overview

September/October

Main Lesson-Main Lesson-Roman History: Topics covered-Founding of Rome, Important Figures (Caesar, Hortensia, Cornelia Africana, Mark Antony, Spartacus, Gaius Gracchus, Hannibal), Life in Ancient Rome (clothes, jobs, government, food, culture), The Fall of Rome.

Projects-build a camera obscura

September Language Arts- Essay on Grandma Moses and/or Indigenous people day. Focus on organization of writing, theme and flow.

September Math Concepts- place value with decimals, rounding with decimals, Adding/subtracting/multiplying/dividing decimals, greatest common factor, equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions.

September Science- Stars and Galaxies-

October-

Main Lesson-Roman History: Topics covered-Founding of Rome, Important Figures (Caesar, Hortensia, Cornelia Africana, Mark Antony, Spartacus, Gaius Gracchus, Hannibal), Life in Ancient Rome (clothes, jobs, government, food, culture), The Fall of Rome.

Language Arts- Essay on Eleanor Roosevelt. Focus on Topic sentences and flow.

Math Concepts- Fractions- Adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, area, perimeter.

October Science-The Solar System-We will be watching the video Cosmos-A Spacetime Odyssey during September and October

November-

Main Lesson- Language Arts-Topics covered-Grammar, parts of speech, punctuation,

Language Arts- Argument/Opinion Essay-Focus on the HOOK, thesis, claim, including opposing opinions, and conclusion.

Math Concepts—Nets, surface area, area and volume using fractions and decimals.

Science-Earth, it's Moon and atmosphere. We will be working on toothpick bridges during November.

December-

Main Lesson- make up time and Geometric Drawing.

Language Arts-Fiction book report on fictional book of choice. Focus on word choice, voice, and topic sentences.

Math concepts- Order of operations, powers, exponents.

Science-Earth's oceans and freshwater

January-

Main Lesson-African Continent Travelogue-African Travelogue Project-Guidelines, rubrics, maps, etc. African Continent Map, Unique facts about Africa, poster work.

Language Arts-reports on African Travelogue project

Math Concepts-variables and expressions, geometric formulas, interest, distributive property, algebraic expressions.

Science-Earth's landmasses and interior

February-

Main Lesson-African American History-The rise of slavery in the US, Important figures (Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass), African American History Timeline including mini biographies. Civil War 360 video.

Language Arts writings-poetry (read poetry from African American poets across history, assign poem), Report on ONE AFRICAN AMERICAN FIGURE and/or the Homosapiens/Genetics report.

Math Concepts-Equations and solutions, mixed one-step equations with variables, mixed two step equations with variables, integers, coordinate planes, and graphing inequalities.

Science-Movement of the Earth's crust, Plate tectonics, Earthquakes and volcanoes.

March-

Main Lesson-Business Math-Topics covered-barter systems and limitations, modern money, review of interest and how a bank works, how a corporation works. Trip to Oregon Community Credit Union.

Language Arts-non-fiction book report.

Math Concepts-Geometric sequences, customary and metric conversions, motion rates (distance, time, etc.)

Rocks and minerals, weathering and soil formation, erosion and deposition.

April-

Main Lesson- Medieval History-Topics covered-Feudalism, medieval society, Holy Wars, the Founding of Islam, people and life in the Middle Ages, Richard the Lionheart and Saladin documentary.

Language Arts-Read Crispin and the Cross of Lead together. Follow weekly questions and quizzes.

April 9th was the date that Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses Grant and ended the Civil War. We will discuss the concepts talked about in the Civil War 360 video and do a short essay comparing and contrasting various attitudes.

Math concepts-percents, decimals, fractions, and life applications.

Science-Weather, Climate, Geologic time

May/June-

Main Lesson-Astronomy and Geology-Topics covered-tenets of astronomy and geology (heat, pressure, solids, gasses, liquids, breakdown of matter, etc), plate tectonics, life cycles of stars, hydrologic cycle, rock cycle, field trip to the observatory.

Language Arts-Finish Crispin and the Cross of Lead, do an oral report.

Math Concepts-probability, statistics, dot plots, histograms, box and whisker plots, mean absolute deviation.

Science-Energy resources, pollution, conserving resources