



The **Green** School

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

# Middle School Curriculum & Courses

*Growing*  
the whole

**CHILD**

Developmental Harmony™

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# Welcome to The Green School's Middle School

At TGS, the Middle School years, are a dynamic phase where students embark on a journey of growth, embracing greater independence and taking ownership of their educational pursuits. During this crucial period, students experience significant cognitive, social, and emotional development.

The Middle School curriculum is not just about academic subjects; it's about nurturing well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the challenges of the future. As students progress through these years, they develop essential life skills, including time management, collaboration, and adaptability.

The curriculum for Middle School is designed to provide a balanced and comprehensive education, fostering intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and a strong foundation for future learning.

Our curriculum follows the [American Common Core Standards](#), ensuring a rigorous and internationally benchmarked education. It encompasses a wide range of subjects, including English, mathematics, science, social studies, world languages, arts, physical education, and technology. By offering a balanced and comprehensive curriculum, we empower students to develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills essential for their future academic and professional endeavours.



## Social & Emotional Learning

TGS recognizes the significant developmental stage of Middle School students, where they are actively shaping their sense of self and identity. We value both social and academic growth, fostering a culture that prioritizes collaboration rather than compliance. Building strong relationships is at the core of our Middle School experience, with meaningful connections between students, teachers, peers, and families.

To provide opportunities for exploration and personal growth, our Middle School students have the freedom to engage in Genius Hours, participate in extracurricular activities, and join various social clubs such as Equine Studies, Physical Activity - Sports, Chess Club, Service Learning, Yoga, and Running Club, among others. This approach allows our students to develop their unique interests, collaborate with their peers, and broaden their horizons.

# Welcome to The Green School's Middle School

TGS prioritizes the well-being of our students through the implementation of daily morning meetings based on the [Responsive Classroom](#) approach. During the morning meeting in a responsive classroom, the primary goal is to create a positive and inclusive classroom community. Here is a summary of the main elements and purposes of a morning meeting in a responsive classroom approach:



**Greeting:** The morning meeting often starts with a greeting activity where students and teachers greet each other by name. This helps create a sense of belonging, promotes positive relationships, and sets a respectful tone for the day.



**Sharing:** During the sharing phase, students have the opportunity to share important events or experiences from their personal lives. This promotes active listening, empathy, and understanding among students, fostering a supportive and caring classroom environment.



**Group Activity:** A group activity is typically incorporated into the morning meeting to engage students in a cooperative and interactive experience. This could include a team-building game, a problem-solving task, or a brief energizer to get students ready for the day's learning.



**Morning Message:** The teacher shares a morning message, which could be a written note or displayed on a board, addressing the whole class. The message often includes important announcements, reminders, or a positive quote to inspire and motivate students.



**Daily Schedule:** The morning meeting provides an opportunity for the teacher to outline the daily schedule, including any changes or special events. This helps students develop a sense of structure and predictability, reducing anxiety and increasing their readiness for learning.



**Goal Setting:** Students may be encouraged to set individual or class goals during the morning meeting. This cultivates a growth mindset, encourages reflection, and empowers students to take ownership of their learning and behaviour.



**Closing:** The morning meeting concludes with a closing activity that reinforces the sense of community and prepares students for the transition to the next part of the day. This could involve a quick review of the day's highlights, a positive affirmation, or a moment of mindfulness.

# Welcome to The Green School's Middle School

At TGS, we ensure we are developing the pillars of Social & Emotional Learning. These five pillars work together to support the holistic development of students' social and emotional competencies, enabling them to navigate relationships, make responsible decisions, and thrive in various contexts.



**Self-Awareness:** This competency involves recognizing and understanding one's own emotions, strengths, and limitations. It includes developing a positive self-image, self-confidence, and a sense of identity. Self-awareness also involves being able to accurately assess one's emotions, thoughts, and values.



**Self-Management:** Self-management focuses on regulating and controlling one's emotions, behaviours, and impulses in different situations. It includes skills such as managing stress, setting and achieving goals, showing self-discipline, and demonstrating resilience in the face of challenges.



**Social Awareness:** Social awareness refers to the ability to empathize and understand others' perspectives and feelings. It involves developing empathy, compassion, and respect for diversity. Socially aware individuals are able to navigate and appreciate different social and cultural contexts.



**Relationship Skills:** This competency encompasses the ability to establish and maintain healthy and positive relationships. It involves effective communication, active listening, cooperation, negotiation, and conflict resolution. Relationship skills also include understanding and respecting boundaries, as well as demonstrating empathy and teamwork.



**Responsible Decision-Making:** Responsible decision-making involves making ethical and constructive choices based on considering the well-being of oneself and others. It includes identifying problems, analyzing situations, evaluating potential consequences, and making thoughtful and responsible decisions.

# Middle School Curriculum



Grade 6 to 7, encompasses a rigorous curriculum of Language Arts, Mathematics, Information Studies (Science and Social Studies) done through Units of Study (UoS). There is a strong emphasis on developing academic skills that will assist them with the transition to Grade 8 and then into High School.

Grade 8, encompasses a rigorous curriculum that works similar to High School and assists with the transition to High School. There are four core subject, Language Arts, Mathematics, History and Earth Sciences. In addition to the core subjects, our 8th-grade students have the exciting opportunity to choose two elective courses from a diverse range of options. These electives are designed to cater to individual interests and aptitudes, allowing students to explore subjects beyond the core curriculum.

The elective courses include a wide range of subjects, such as arts, technology, languages, or other specialized areas. This allows students to explore their passions and expand their knowledge beyond the core subjects.

By offering a combination of core subjects and elective options, we aim to provide students with a solid academic foundation while also encouraging exploration and self-discovery. We believe that the Middle School years are a crucial time for students to cultivate their interests, broaden their horizons, and develop the skills that will serve them well throughout their educational journey and beyond.

Our curriculum follows the American Common Core Standards, ensuring a rigorous and internationally benchmarked education. By offering a balanced and comprehensive curriculum, we empower students to develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills essential for their future academic and professional endeavours.

## Extensions in the Curriculum

Our curriculum is versatile and allows students to explore many aspects and modes of learning.

**Tinkering with Lego Foundation:** TGS along with the LEGO Foundation incorporates tinkering as an educational approach to encourage students to apply their knowledge in both technical and creative ways. Tinkering with LEGO bricks allows students to engage in hands-on, exploratory learning, where they can experiment, problem-solve, and create using the bricks. This approach promotes critical thinking, collaboration, and communication skills, while fostering technical understanding and nurturing creativity. By encouraging open-ended exploration and iterative learning, the LEGO Foundation's tinkering approach empowers students to apply their knowledge in practical and innovative ways, providing a dynamic and enriching educational experience.

# Middle School Curriculum

## Subject Choices

Grade 8 students undergo yearly psychometric assessments to assist them in selecting their subjects. The compulsory subjects include English, History, Maths, and Sciences. These foundational courses are essential for a well-rounded education. In addition to the compulsory subjects, students have a wide range of elective options to choose from.

## Extracurricular Activities

At TGS students have the opportunity to participate in our Extracurricular Activities:

**Sports and Physical Fitness:** The sports program is led by a professional athlete and focuses on functional fitness. It offers a personalized approach to cater to the unique needs of each student. The program emphasizes body movement, commitment, communication, and teamwork, while simultaneously fostering the development of essential physical skills.



**STEM:** STEM classes for grades 6 – 8 focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. These classes aim to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of these subjects and their practical applications. The curriculum is designed to foster critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, and innovation.

**Creative & Performing Arts:** Creative and performing arts classes for grades 6-8 provide students with opportunities to explore their artistic talents and express themselves through various creative mediums. These classes emphasize the creative process and allow students to exercise their free will in their artistic endeavours. In creative and performing arts classes, students are encouraged to think critically, explore their imaginations, and develop their unique artistic voices. They have the freedom to choose their preferred art forms, such as visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or creative writing. These classes provide a supportive environment where students can experiment, take risks, and embrace their individuality.

# Genius Hour

Over the course of middle school, students are expected to partake in Genius Hour. Genius Hour is an innovative educational concept, serves as a catalyst for fostering creativity, curiosity, and personal investment in learning. Emerging as a counterbalance to traditional classroom routines, Genius Hour empowers students to explore and develop their passions, driving intrinsic motivation and a deeper understanding of subjects beyond the curriculum.

At its core, Genius Hour is an allocated period during the school week where students have the autonomy to choose a topic of personal interest and embark on a self-directed project. This endeavor goes beyond conventional assignments; it's a journey of discovery driven by the student's innate curiosity. Whether it's coding, creative writing, art, science experiments, or even addressing social issues, the possibilities are as diverse as the students themselves.

Embracing the principles of inquiry-based learning, Genius Hour encourages students to ask questions, seek answers, and refine their research skills. As they delve into their chosen subjects, they learn how to critically evaluate sources, synthesize information, and present their findings in compelling ways. These skills transcend the classroom and become valuable assets for their future academic pursuits and careers.



Genius Hour also nurtures skills that extend beyond the academic realm. Collaboration, time management, and problem-solving take center stage as students navigate their projects. Learning that failure is a stepping stone to success becomes a tangible lesson, teaching resilience and the importance of iteration.

Moreover, Genius Hour amplifies students' sense of ownership over their education. They witness the direct connection between their interests and their academic journey, sparking a genuine enthusiasm for learning. This sense of agency translates into improved engagement, attendance, and overall academic performance.

By embracing Genius Hour, educators acknowledge the diverse strengths and passions within each student. It promotes a student-centered approach, wherein the classroom transforms into a dynamic hub of exploration, innovation, and self-discovery. As students channel their creativity and passion into meaningful projects, they not only enrich their academic experience but also cultivate a lifelong love for learning and a foundation for success in an ever-evolving world.



# Middle School Courses

In middle school, Grades 6 to 7, the curriculum is delivered through UoS that integrates academic skills across multiple subjects, creating a cross-curricular approach. These units are designed to be relevant and student-driven, catering to the interests and needs of the students. By incorporating various subjects into each unit, students can develop a deeper understanding of concepts and see the connections between different disciplines.

The units of study focus on real-world applications and encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. They provide opportunities for students to engage actively in their learning and take ownership of their education. By making the curriculum more student-driven, it fosters a sense of autonomy and motivation, leading to a more meaningful learning experience.

This approach helps students see the interconnectedness of knowledge and apply their skills in various contexts. It also promotes the development of essential skills such as communication, research, and analytical thinking. By delivering the middle school curriculum in this manner, educators aim to create a well-rounded education that prepares students for future academic and personal success.

## Grade 6

Grade 6 learning, aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), is a pivotal phase in a student's educational journey, focusing on building a strong foundation, critical thinking, and independence. In English Language Arts, students delve into literature, honing reading, comprehension, and writing skills. Math explores ratios, geometry, and problem-solving. Social Studies covers cultural aspects and history, with student choice ensuring relevance. Science emphasizes inquiry, experimenting, and reporting. Students cultivate a growth mindset, collaborating on projects and discussions. CCSS-driven Grade 6 education fosters independence, critical analysis, communication, and problem-solving, equipping students for higher grades and beyond.

Grade 6 learning, aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), marks a pivotal stage in a student's educational journey. At this level, the focus is on building a strong foundation across key subjects, fostering critical thinking, and promoting independence in learning.

In **English Language Arts**, students engage in a more comprehensive study of literature and informational texts. They develop advanced reading and comprehension skills, analysing themes, characters, and narrative structures. Writing becomes more sophisticated, with an emphasis on crafting well-structured essays, narratives, and research-based pieces. Communication skills expand to include effective speaking and listening, allowing students to articulate ideas clearly and participate confidently in discussions.

# Middle School Courses

In **Mathematics**, Grade 6 students explore deeper mathematical concepts. They delve into ratios and proportional relationships, understand integers and rational numbers, and tackle expressions and equations. Geometry expands to cover area, surface area, and volume, while statistics and probability introduce them to data analysis and predictions. Problem-solving becomes more complex, encouraging students to apply mathematical principles in real-world contexts.

**Social Studies** in Grade 6 often delves into geography and history. Students study the cultural, economic, and social aspects of different societies, tracing the evolution of human communities. They analyse primary sources, understand historical timelines, and develop critical perspectives on events and developments. The content is a choice for students, ensuring that the lessons remain interesting and relevant.

In **Science**, Grade 6 extends scientific inquiry. Students explore many different aspects of the sciences. They conduct experiments, gather data, and draw conclusions, honing their observation and analysis skills. Students will learn to write scientific reports and report on findings. The content is a choice for students, ensuring that the lessons remain interesting and relevant.

Across subjects, the emphasis is on building a growth mindset, and encouraging students to embrace challenges, learn from mistakes, and persevere. Collaborative skills strengthen as group projects and discussions become more prevalent, fostering teamwork and communication.

Grade 6 learning under the CCSS encourages students to become more independent learners, capable of critical analysis, effective communication, and problem-solving. As they navigate more complex academic content, they develop the skills and mindset needed for success in subsequent grades and beyond.

## Grade 7

Aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), Grade 7 learning signifies a crucial stage of academic growth, where students delve deeper into key subjects to prepare for upcoming challenges. English Language Arts refines analysis of literature and texts, emphasizing comprehension and advanced writing skills. Math progresses with proportional relationships, rational numbers, geometry, and data analysis. Social Studies explores historical interactions, encouraging critical evaluation of sources and connections between past and present. Science advances with topics like cell structure and forces, fostering hands-on inquiry and practical exploration. Grade 7 emphasizes critical thinking, self-directed learning, and collaboration through complex projects. CCSS-driven Grade 7 education nurtures intellectual curiosity, sophisticated learning approaches, and essential skills for future success.



# Middle School Courses

In **English Language Arts**, Grade 7 students engage in more intricate analysis of literature and informational texts. They refine their comprehension skills, examining themes, character motivations, and the author's craft. Writing becomes more nuanced, encompassing argumentative essays, research papers, and narratives. Within the domain of English Language Arts, students at the 7th-grade level immerse themselves in the realm of more complex literary and informational text analysis as prescribed by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Their aptitude for comprehension is honed to a higher degree, as they delve into the exploration of themes, motivations of characters, and the artistry of authors. The refinement of writing skills takes on a subtler quality, encompassing the creation of argumentative essays, research-based papers, and narratives. Proficiency in effective communication takes a step further, expanding to encompass the skill of presenting information through a variety of multimedia formats, in alignment with CCSS guidelines.

Within the domain of **Mathematics** in Grade 7, the CCSS-driven curriculum intricately weaves together a tapestry of concepts aimed at fostering a robust foundation. As students navigate through this landscape, they encounter the profound intricacies of proportional relationships, deftly mastering the art of manipulating rational numbers and skilfully navigating the labyrinth of multi-step equations. Geometry assumes a pivotal role within the CCSS-aligned Grade 7 curriculum, where students are encouraged to not only comprehend the theoretical underpinnings, but also to translate this understanding into practical applications. Delving into the intricacies of angles, wielding calculations to unveil the secrets of area and volume, and grasping the fundamental principles of geometry collectively empower students to perceive the world through a geometric lens.

Furthermore, the CCSS-fostered Grade 7 mathematical odyssey extends its embrace to the realms of statistics and probability. Equipped with a discerning eye, students embark on an exploration of data sets, extracting invaluable insights through meticulous analysis. The synergy of statistical interpretation and probabilistic thinking enables them to make informed predictions, navigating uncertainty with mathematical acumen. Through this multifaceted journey, CCSS ensures that students emerge not only as proficient mathematical thinkers but also as adept communicators, capable of conveying their findings and insights with clarity and precision.



In Grade 7 **Social Studies**, the curriculum centers on history and geography, presenting a captivating journey through the annals of time and the intricacies of the world's landscapes. The Common Core Standards are used to teach students skills required to be successful in these subjects. Guided by this comprehensive approach, students delve into the profound cause-and-effect relationships inherent in human interactions and their profound impact on the global stage. Through meticulous examination of primary and secondary sources, students cultivate the skills to discern historical narratives while embracing diverse perspectives.

# Middle School Courses

This analytical approach not only nurtures their ability to critically evaluate information but also empowers them to draw insightful connections between the past and the present. By seamlessly intertwining history and geography, the Grade 7 Social Studies curriculum equips students with a holistic understanding of the human story and the world they inhabit, fostering both a sense of cultural empathy and the analytical tools necessary for navigating an ever-evolving global landscape.

In Grade 7 **Science**, students embark on an enriched exploration of scientific principles, guided by the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Science Common Core State Standards (CCSS). This curriculum delves into life, physical, and earth sciences, facilitating an immersive study of multifaceted subjects such as cell structure, forces and motion, and geologic processes. Through experiential learning, practical experimentation, and hands-on discovery, students foster their innate curiosity while honing their skills in inquiry and analysis, a cornerstone of scientific investigation. The fusion of NGSS and Science CCSS ensures a comprehensive and dynamic learning experience that not only broadens students' scientific horizons but also equips them with the analytical tools necessary to navigate the intricate realm of science.

Throughout Grade 7, emphasis is placed on critical thinking, self-directed learning, and collaboration. Students tackle more complex projects, requiring research, analysis, and presentation. They develop strategies for time management, organization, and adapting to various learning environments. Grade 7 learning under the CCSS cultivates a deeper intellectual curiosity and a more sophisticated approach to learning. As students navigate intricate content, they enhance their ability to think critically, communicate effectively, and work collaboratively—essential skills that pave the way for success in higher grades and equip them for future academic and personal endeavors.

## Grade 8

In grade 8, students transition to an online platform to begin formal assessments in English, Maths, History, and Sciences, while incorporating the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). This transition provides a seamless continuation of their academic journey from grade 7, building upon the skills they have developed. The online platform offers a structured environment for students to engage with the CCSS-aligned curriculum.

### English Language Arts

In Grade 8 English Language Arts, students immerse themselves in a comprehensive exploration of reading comprehension, writing prowess, vocabulary enrichment, and adept communication. This curriculum is meticulously aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and centers on cultivating students' proficiency in comprehending written text, honing writing abilities, expanding lexicons, and mastering the art of effective expression.

# Middle School Courses



Throughout the curriculum, students engage in a multifaceted approach that encompasses an array of pivotal skills. Reading comprehension is elevated through analytical exploration of literature, promoting a deeper understanding of themes, characters, and literary elements. Writing skills are meticulously nurtured as students embark on the crafting of various forms of essays—narrative, argumentative, and informative—fostering the development of structured thought and coherent expression.

This curriculum empowers learners to refine their listening and speaking competencies, enabling them to actively contribute to meaningful discourse and present their perspectives adeptly. By delving into a diverse range of literary genres, as well as informational texts and contemporary applications, students cultivate the art of close reading, textual analysis, and interpretation. The framework encourages students to articulate their insights and ideas, fostering critical thinking and analytical prowess.

Guided by our dedicated educators, students partake in dynamic classroom discussions, collaborative projects, and presentations, fostering an environment where diverse viewpoints are cherished and authentic dialogue thrives. Technology is seamlessly woven into the curriculum, empowering students to cultivate research skills and media literacy, providing them with the tools essential for both academic triumph and the capacity to communicate effectively in an ever-evolving world.

By embracing the Grade 8 English Language Arts curriculum, founded upon the tenets of the CCSS, students refine their linguistic abilities and foster a profound appreciation for literature's depth and the potential of eloquent expression. This educational journey equips them with the vital skills to excel academically and to flourish as articulate, thoughtful communicators in an increasingly interconnected global landscape.

## Mathematics

In Grade 8 Mathematics, students continue to advance their mathematical proficiencies through the utilization of concepts built upon in prior grades, while concurrently engaging with more intricate problem-solving challenges. This comprehensive curriculum adheres to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), encompassing algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability domains to augment critical thinking and logical reasoning competencies. The framework is meticulously structured to nurture the maturation of students' adeptness in mathematical operations, their capacity to analyze and resolve multifaceted problems, and their comprehension of mathematical principles and their real-world applications.

# Middle School Courses

Within this curriculum, learners traverse an array of mathematical realms, encompassing numbers and operations, algebraic thought processes, geometry, measurement, and data analysis. The instructional approach interweaves experiential activities, problem-solving endeavors, and practical scenarios, synergistically fostering the cultivation of critical thought processes, logical deduction, and the ability to articulate mathematical concepts cogently.

Our educators are dedicated to delivering tailored instruction, thoughtfully accommodating the diverse spectrum of student needs, thus fostering a balanced blend of conceptual comprehension and procedural adeptness.

The integration of technology is a cornerstone of this curriculum, further bolstering mathematical fluency and equipping students to proficiently navigate the intricacies of advanced mathematics. By nurturing mathematical literacy, we empower students with the means to surmount the complexities of higher-level mathematical challenges while also bestowing them with the ability to apply their acquired knowledge to real-life situations. The Grade 8 Mathematics curriculum, aligning closely with the CCSS, aims not only to hone mathematical mastery but also to cultivate adaptive thinkers capable of confidently tackling mathematical conundrums and translating their skills into pragmatic applications.

## **History / Social Studies**

In Grade 8 United States History, students embark on a rich exploration of the nation's past, guided by the principles of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) to cultivate a comprehensive understanding of historical events and the development of critical thinking skills. The curriculum unfolds through a series of interconnected units, each shedding light on a distinct epoch of America's intricate narrative. Beginning with "Colonization and Settlement," students delve into the foundational years of the nation, tracing the diverse motivations and challenges that propelled European exploration, colonization, and interactions with indigenous cultures.

The curriculum then transitions to "Revolutionary America," where students examine the causes, consequences, and complexities of the American Revolution, analysing pivotal documents and figures that shaped the nation's fight for independence. This segues into "Founding of the Republic," guiding students through the crafting of the United States Constitution and the early years of the nation's governance, exploring the delicate balance between federal and state powers.

As students progress to "Westward Expansion and Industrialization," they delve into the inexorable expansion of the United States, examining its impact on indigenous populations, the socio-economic ramifications, and the birth of an industrial society. This is followed by a study of "Civil War and Reconstruction," where students explore the causes, dynamics, and legacies of the nation's most profound conflict, grappling with questions of slavery, state sovereignty, and the struggle for civil rights.

# Middle School Courses

The curriculum then transitions to "Turn of the Century and Progressive Era," guiding students through the transformative decades of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, analyzing social, political, and economic reforms that reshaped the nation's landscape. As students reach "World War I and its Aftermath," they delve into the global conflict's impact on the United States, considering the nation's role in international affairs and the subsequent challenges of the post-war period.

Concluding with "Great Depression and World War II," students scrutinize the cataclysmic events of the 20th century, analyzing the economic devastation of the Great Depression and the transformative impact of World War II on American society, politics, and global influence. Throughout the curriculum, students hone essential skills in historical analysis, interpretation, and contextual understanding, fostering a deep appreciation for the complexities of the nation's past and the relevance of historical lessons in contemporary society. By adhering to the CCSS, the Grade 8 U.S. History curriculum equips students with the knowledge and critical thinking skills necessary to engage as informed citizens and conscientious participants in shaping the nation's future.



## Sciences

In Grade 8 Earth Sciences, students embark on a comprehensive journey through the captivating realm of Earth's geology, atmospheric dynamics, and intricate environmental interactions, aligning with the tenets of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) to foster a holistic understanding and honing of critical thinking skills. The curriculum unfolds across a series of interconnected units, each unveiling a distinct facet of Earth's profound narrative. Beginning with "Earth's Structure and Composition," learners investigate the stratified layers comprising the planet, from the lithospheric crust to the seething core, delving into the forces of plate tectonics, earthquakes, and volcanic phenomena that sculpt and reshape the terrestrial canvas.

This segues into a study of "Minerals and Rocks," wherein the origins, classifications, and transformative cycles of these geological constituents are unraveled, unveiling the intricate interplay between creation and alteration that underscores the planet's ever-changing visage. As students transition to "Erosion, Weathering, and Soil," they explore the gradual but profound influence of wind, water, and ice on Earth's topography, while also investigating the formation and significance of soil as a life-sustaining resource.

The curriculum then ventures into the annals of time with "Earth's History and Fossils," guiding students through the epochs of the geologic time scale and unveiling the intricate stories fossilized within Earth's layers, offering glimpses into the evolution of ancient life forms and environments.

# Middle School Courses

"Earth's Atmosphere and Weather" unfolds as a gateway to understanding the intricate ballet of meteorological forces, including air pressure, temperature, and the water cycle, enabling students to decipher the complex web of factors shaping our planet's climates. The exploration then delves beneath the ocean's surface in "Earth's Oceans and Hydrosphere," traversing the world of ocean currents, tides, and marine life while highlighting the oceans' indispensable role in climate regulation and ecological sustenance.

As students reach "Human Impact on the Environment," they confront the stark realities of human activities' effects on the planet, scrutinizing issues such as pollution, deforestation, and climate change, all while embracing the urgency of sustainable practices.

Concluding with "Earth Science Inquiry and Applications," the curriculum empowers students to don the mantle of scientific inquiry, conducting experiments, analyzing data, and discerning conclusions related to Earth science phenomena, thereby cultivating essential skills for a scientifically literate populace. Throughout this academic odyssey, students are equipped with observation, analysis, critical thinking, and communication skills, cultivating an acute awareness of the planet's intricacies and the imperative of environmental stewardship. The Grade 8 Earth Sciences curriculum, anchored in the CCSS, not only imparts knowledge but nurtures a profound respect for Earth's complexity and a resolute commitment to safeguarding its natural harmony.

## **Electives**

Grade 8 students have the opportunity to choose two elective subjects that align with their interests and goals. These electives may encompass a wide range of subjects, such as arts, technology, languages, or other specialized areas. This allows students to explore their passions and expand their knowledge beyond the core subjects.





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