

Academic Standards for The Classical Academy



Sixth Grade

History: Middle Ages (476 A.D. – 1400 A.D.)

Students' understanding of the Middle Ages is deepened with a thorough study of the following events and places. Students create timelines and draw maps to enhance their grasp of the major conflicts, events, and individuals.

Students will:

- Review Roman History
- List and analyze the cause and effects of The Fall of Rome
- Describe and interpret the state of Europe after The Fall of Rome
- Explain the rise of Mohammad and Islam, list and explain the foundations of Islam and its spread into the Medieval World
- Chronicle the rise of the French nation in Europe from Clovis I, Charles Martel, and Charlemagne from the 5th through the 9th centuries
- Summarize the Norman Invasion and settlement of Great Britain
- Chronicle the crusades in depth
- Analyze the rise and fall of the Mongols
- Identify Marco Polo's travels and analyze his role in the inspiration of later Explorers
- Evaluate the spread and impact of the Black Death in Europe
- Summarize the Hundred Year's War including its causes and effects on England, France and Europe as a whole
- Articulate the Code of Chivalry

Science: Chemistry

Students are introduced to Chemistry through an in depth study of the periodic table, substances and their reactions.

- Describe the scientific method.
- Describe basic laboratory safety rules and protocols.
- Identify and describe the states of matter.
- Identify and describe changes in states of matter.
- Memorize the grammar of chemistry. (element, compound, atom, molecule, matter, mass, volume, reactants, products, substance, groups, periods)
- Compare and contrast physical properties and chemical properties.
- Compare and contrast physical changes and chemical changes.
- Compare and contrast homogenous and heterogenous mixtures.
- Compare and contrast acids and bases.
- Calculate density, mass, or volume using the density equation.
- Calculate basic metric conversions.
- Write quantities in scientific notation.

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- Recite the elements of the periodic table.
- Describe the history of the periodic table and its organization.
- Compare and contrast the three types of elements (metals, nonmetals, and metalloids).
- Identify characteristics of the groups and specific elements of the periodic table.
- Identify and draw the parts of an atom,
- Diagram the first three energy levels of an atom.
- Identify and describe ionic and covalent bonding.
- Diagram simple Lewis structures of an atom.
- Name chemical compounds using basic nomenclature rules.
- Identify and describe the different types of chemical reactions (synthesis, decomposition, single replacement, double replacement, and combustion).
- Balance simple chemical equations.
- Describe the unique chemical properties of water.

Mathematics - (Saxon 8/7)

The student will:

- Solve 1 and 2 step algebraic equations
- Convert ratios to fractions
- Change ratios
- Calculate part of a whole as a percentage
- Calculate one quantity as a percentage of another
- Solve percentage problems by unitary method
- Calculate speed and average speed
- Evaluate expressions with fractions using order of operations
- Calculate radius, diameter, perimeter, and circumference and area of a circle
- Calculate area and perimeter of compound figures
- Evaluate expressions using the order of operations
- Interpret graphs using fractions, and percents
- Calculate multi-step volume problems
- Calculate speed
- Find unknown angles of triangles and four sided figures
- Solve multi-step word problems using diagrams

Reading

The student will:

- Read with expression, interjecting a sense of feeling, anticipation or characterization
- Monitor text for unknown words by using context clues
- Recognize the origins and meanings of frequently used foreign words in English
- Complete simple analogies
- Identify and use base words, prefixes and suffixes to understand meanings

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- Determine the meaning of unknown words by using glossary and/or dictionary
- Identify the speaker and recognize the difference between first- and third-person narrations.
- Describe the mood, or meaning, conveyed in poetry through word choice, rhythm, repetition, and rhyme)
- Define and analyze various types of figurative language in poetry and prose (simile, metaphor, personification, symbolism, hyperbole, alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia, imagery, allusion)
- Determine the author's purpose for reading a specific text
- Locate specific details in a textbook passage to promote understanding (cause/effect, classifying, compare/contrast, sequencing)
- Draw conclusions to make judgments, inferences, and to summarize and analyze information
- Determine factual information from opinion
- Identify the genre of a selection
- Identify the main idea of a selection
- Identify and analyze the major characteristics of various literary forms (e.g. informational text, narrative, lyric poetry, short stories, novels, dramas, epics, folk tales, essays, myths).
- Identify and analyze the parts of a plot diagram (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution)
- Identify and analyze four types of plot conflict (man v man, man v nature, man v self, man v society)
- Use story structures, and literary elements, such as the plot, setting, theme, characterization, conflict, and resolution, to analyze short stories.
- Leave sixth grade reading at or above a seventh grade level as determined by McCall Crabbs testing

Literature

- Analyze a character's traits and virtues through the character's thoughts, words, and actions, and through the other characters' thoughts, words, and actions.
- Identify and analyze common themes across texts (e.g. bravery, loyalty, friendship).
- Describe how a text reflects an author's attitudes, traditions, and heritage.
- Explain how literature can be used to better understand time periods and events (historical fiction)
- Novels may include:
 - *Much Ado About Nothing* (Shakespeare)
 - *Robin Hood* (Pyle)
 - *The Song of Roland* (Merwin)
 - *The Canterbury Tales* (McCaughrean)
 - *Henry V* (Shakespeare - selections)
 - *King Arthur* (Hadfield)
 - *1001 Arabian Nights* (McCaughrean)

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- *Poems of Arab Andalusia* (selections)
- *The Trumpeter of Krakow* (Kelly)
- *Adam of the Road* (Gray)

Writing and Grammar

The student will: (Classical Writing: Homer, progymnasma narrative)

- Demonstrate understanding of spelling rules and mastery of phonograms through weekly spelling lessons and tests
- Articulate understanding of vocabulary acquisition through writing
- Diagram sentences to demonstrate mastery of knowledge of:
 - Verbs, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, prepositions, conjunctions, interjections and adverbs
- Manipulate and rewrite sentences using the “six sentence shuffle” which includes:
 - Paraphrasing, synonym substitution, grammatical change, addition (adding words, dialogue, setting change etc.), subtraction (removing words, dialogue, setting change, etc.), same diagram – new idea
- Use exemplar text for:
 - Copy work
 - Dictation
 - Summarizing sentences
 - Hierarchical outlining
 - Scenes and acts
 - Defining paragraph types
 - Multi-scene stories
 - Telling a story backwards
 - Editing a narrative for credibility, concision and clarity
 - Invention, arrangement and style

Geography

- Understand and communicate geography during the Middle Ages as it relates to global world geography
- Draw and label a map of European countries and their capitals
- Study maps of empires and battles through the Middle Ages
- Draw and label Middle Ages geographical land and water masses from memory