

Celina 6th Grade Center

Grade 6

Course Descriptions 2019-2020

Grade 6 Required Courses	Grade 6 Elective Courses
English Language Arts and Reading Math Science Social Studies PE, Pre-Athletics Keyboarding	Full Year Offerings: Band Choir Art Theatre Arts

Electives Note: While in (grades 6-8), Texas students must earn four (4) semesters of PE credit and one (1) Fine Arts credit. Fine Arts consists of Art, Band, Choir, Dance, Orchestra and Theatre. Each 6th Elective Course earns a Fine Arts credit.

Celina 6th Grade Advanced/Accelerated Course Notes:

Students choosing to enroll in Grade 6 Advanced/Accelerated courses should expect a rigorous academic curriculum requiring additional demands on time, personal organization, and commitment. Jr. High School level advance courses are specifically designed to support and prepare capable students for high school Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

GRADE 6 REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English Language Arts and Reading 6

Grade 6 students will have a choice of English Language Arts and Reading 6 (**ELAR 6**), or Advance English Language Arts and Reading 6 (**Advance ELAR 6**), or **Advance/GT** English Language Arts and Reading 6 (**ADV/GT ELAR 6**).

Either... ELAR 6:

Language Arts is a course designed to enhance each student's ability to listen critically, to comprehend and analyze various types of reading, as well as to communicate effectively orally and in writing. Students will engage in activities that build on prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, and oral language skills. Students will also apply concepts learned in class in a practical manner, connecting content with real-world situations.

OR... Advanced ELAR 6:

In addition to the expectations of a standard Language Arts course, Pre-AP students should expect a more challenging approach to the concepts addressed in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The material is presented and analyzed at a deeper level, while writing and oral expression is developed in such a manner that students can approach difficult and thought-provoking topics with confidence. Pre-AP students should be prepared to commit the time and effort required to excel in a course that requires them not only to remember, understand, and apply the information discussed in class, but to analyze and evaluate that information, ultimately creating a product that conveys their own insights and ideas.

OR... Advanced /GT ELAR 6:

Prerequisite: Identification as Gifted and Talented according to CISD guidelines.

The Gifted and Talented ELAR classes use a locally designed curriculum along with other curriculum supplements intended for high-ability learners. Students explore forms of media such as art, music, and advertising. The G.T. class is designed to enable students to read complex texts and to write prose rich enough and complex enough for the mature reader. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program, with advanced reading selections chosen for their complexity, depth, relevance to issues facing our society, and capacity to provoke interpretive behavior and contemplative thought.



Math

Grade 6 students will take either Math 6, Accelerated Math 6, or Accelerated/GT Math 6

Either... Math 6:

This course provides students with experiences necessary to become mathematically literate for the 21st Century. Focal points in mathematics at Grade 6 are using ratios to describe proportional relationships, geometry, measurement, probability, and adding/subtracting decimals and fractions. Problem-solving strategies, communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and reasoning are emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop conceptual understandings and solve problems. According to TEA, sixth grade is the beginning of secondary mathematics. The shift from concrete to abstract analysis becomes more realized.

OR... Advance Math 6:

This course covers 6th and intro to 7th Grade Math Curriculum. This course is designed to prepare students for entry into Pre-AP courses at the high school level. The Sixth and Seventh grade Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills are compacted to prepare the students for Pre-AP math in seventh grade. Critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills are incorporated throughout this course. Students must possess advanced mathematical abilities. Successful advance students are self-motivated, well organized, and have a sincere interest in mathematics.

OR... Accelerated/ Math 6:

This course is a double block class and will cover the 6th and 7th Grade Math Curriculum.

This course is designed to engage gifted learners in the major concepts of number sense, problem-solving, and mathematical analysis. Students will develop mathematical thinking and reasoning skills while learning new concepts and skills in the context of solving problems. The curriculum has been developed to encourage students to develop alternative and creative solutions to problems and produce advanced level products and performances. This will prepare students for a double block class in 7th grade that will cover 8th Math and Algebra I.



Science

Science: The students will develop knowledge and understanding of the four basic areas of scientific study: inquiry, physical, Earth and life sciences. Using the scientific method, they become familiar with the process that scientists use to answer questions and solve problems. The combination of lecture and hands-on experience contribute to stirring their curiosity, expanding their horizon, and cultivating learning outside the classroom.

This study includes planning and implementing field and laboratory investigations using scientific methods and lab equipment, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and presenting discovery in graphical forms, as well as drawing conclusions based on results. This course covers physical and chemical properties of matter, energy conservation and use, forces and motion, simple machines, Earth materials, solar system exploration and taxonomy of living things.



History

Social Studies: Designed as a study of people and places in the contemporary world. This course focuses on geography and cultures as they exist today. The strands of history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science & technology, and social studies skills are integrated into the curriculum. Instruction is delivered through a variety of methods including reading primary and secondary sources, visual materials, audio-visual selections, and use of technology, which will encourage students to use the knowledge and skills they will develop in class.

Physical Education – Required Course

All Grade 6 students are required to participate in Physical Education. Students will meet this requirement by choosing from **PE or Pre-Athletics**.

Either... **PE (Year):** This activity course is geared to fitness and healthy lifestyles. Students are expected to participate in general fitness activities designed to promote healthy living habits. Students will not be required to dress out but will be expected to have tennis shoes every day.

OR... **Pre-Athletics (Year):** *Open to any 6th-grade student interested in participating in an athletic team sport in the 7th grade.* Every aspect of our athletic program will be introduced in a beginner's fashion. Students who take this course will already know how to meet athletic demands when they begin their 7th-grade competition classes as allowed by the UIL. Students selecting this course will be required to dress out every day and should anticipate daily workouts during the class period that are significantly more physically and mentally demanding than what they may experience in a regular PE class.

Grade 6 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students in Grade 6 will choose one (1) full year elective course.

Courses listed are subject to availability and dependent upon numbers of students and faculty. No offerings are guaranteed, but every effort will be made to make each course available to every interested student.

Beginner Band: Designed as a performance-based course, students learn fundamental instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind or percussion instruments. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop teamwork skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline, and (4) develop a positive

self-image. Instrument rental is required; students will receive a list of supplies and book needed. Before or after school rehearsal will be expected at various times during the school year. This course includes an activity fee.

Boys / Girls Choir: The course is designed as a performance-based course in which students learn vocal technique, music reading skills, and choral literature. Choir offers students the opportunity to (1) grow as musicians through the development of their singing voices; (2) participate in concerts as members of large and small ensembles; (3) grow leadership and teamwork skills through interaction with others, and (4) develop and increase discipline and self-image.

Art- The course is designed as an introductory experience to making visual art that requires creativity, craftsmanship, inventiveness, self-motivation, and some skill. Contemporary and master artists are used to inspire students to use their problem-solving skills to create successful works of art. The coursework has specific guidelines and objectives, but remain open-ended enough to allow for individuality and imagination. Student projects may include but are not limited to: drawing in a variety of media, origami, printmaking, paper toy sculpture, plaster sculpture, painting, mixed media, collage, and metal tooling.

Theatre- This course is designed to complement each student's education by introducing him or her to the world of Theatre Arts. Students will learn the introductory elements of drama including working effectively in a group, improving their self-esteem and enhancing communication skills. This course will also provide a learning experience for which student actors will explore imagination through pantomime, puppets, improvisation, storytelling, and scene performances.