



# Middle School Course Catalog 2021-2022



5905 Flintridge Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918  
(719) 598-8610  
Fax: (719) 598-1491  
[www.pikespeakchristianschool.org](http://www.pikespeakchristianschool.org)

## MISSION

The mission of Pikes Peak Christian School is to provide a quality, Bible-based education taught by Christian teachers in a safe and compassionate environment. We strive to identify and develop the academic, social, and spiritual potential of each student in partnership with God and family.

## STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

We believe that God is the creator of all things. We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. We believe that God inspires and guides us through His Spirit and His holy word, the Bible. God created man in His own image to fulfill His purpose, which is to glorify Him. Further, we believe in the necessity of a strong bond between the Lord's Church, the Family, and the School in the education of the child. The strength of that bond will allow us to help each child realize his or her greatest potential, to develop a love of learning, to think and act creatively, and to interact compassionately with others. We consider the opportunity to teach children to be a sacred trust, which we accept with fervor and joy.



... but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles...

Isaiah 40: 30-31

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***At Pikes Peak Christian School all courses are taught from a Christ-Centered Worldview.***

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## Sixth Grade

### **ANCIENT HISTORY**

This introductory course examines the ancient world beginning with the earliest known civilizations through the World Wars. The major areas of study include: early Middle Eastern civilization, early Asian civilization, the foundation of western ideas, the Middle Ages, and Modern Wars. This course emphasizes archeology and map reading, decision-making, individual and group activities.

Length: 1 Year

### **BIBLE**

The sixth grade Bible curriculum, "Grow Up in Christ," focuses on the life of Christ in the New Testament. Throughout this course students will gain discernment for pursuing what is right and living out their faith. Topics such as devotion, discipleship, grace, prayer, and worship will be addressed to best address the needs of developing adolescents. This class encourages students to seek a Christ-like attitude in the midst of growth.

Length: 1 Year

### **COMPUTER**

The sixth grade computer course is a one semester required course. At this level, emphasis is placed on Google Suites and keyboarding improvement. The students will develop the skills of working on Google Suites apps, creating documents, spreadsheets, and slides. They will, also, practice keyboarding to improve their speed and accuracy. Second semester emphasis is on STEM projects.

Length: 1 year

## **EARTH SCIENCE**

The sixth grade earth science curriculum is an expanding study that moves from the Earth's lithosphere to the rest of the universe. Students will build their critical thinking skills as they study the major theories in earth science and follow those theories through to their conclusions. Throughout the course, they will be guided by biblical and scientific principles, ultimately coming to a better understanding of their Creator and a greater appreciation of His creation. The textbook is Earth Science by BJU Press 2020. Depending on the year, students will participate in a science fair, inventor's fair, or Myth Busters fair.

Length: 1 Year

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

In sixth grade, students review a number of basic skills including the parts of speech and proper language usage. Students further develop their paragraph writing and incorporate this skill while studying the short story. By the end of the year students write five paragraph essays that include a thesis. Sixth graders analyze figurative language, learn vocabulary, and discuss pertinent issues through short stories and novels.

Length: 1 Year

## **MATHEMATICS I**

Sixth graders will continue in his/her mastery of operations involving decimals, fractions, percent, place values and integers. The student will be introduced to basic algebra and geometry concepts while solidifying arithmetic concepts and procedures. The students will be introduced to probability as well as functions, equations, and inequalities.

Textbook: Mathematics Course 1, Holt McDougal, 2010.

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Length: 1 Year

## **21ST CENTURY SKILLS**

This class is designed to provide the students with the skills they need to maneuver the Internet effectively for information and research purposes. The students will learn how to discern legitimate websites as well as using information responsibly in a research paper. Global and digital citizenship, collaboration skills, critical thinking, and online safety are also covered. This is a required course.

Length: 1 Semester

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The Physical Education curriculum teaches the student to demonstrate competent skills in a variety of physical activities and sports. The program is designed to encourage lifetime fitness activities as well as team sport activities.

Length: 1 Year

## **Seventh Grade**

### **BIBLE**

The seventh grade Bible curriculum, “Grow Through the Bible,” reveals an narrative overview of the Bible. Some of the topics covered are God’s chosen people, God’s great nation, the Promised land, the kings of Israel, and the development of the new church. Students will gain a better understanding of the Ancient Roman culture and the trials of God’s chosen people.  
Length: 1 Year

### **COMPUTER**

The seventh grade computer course is a one semester required course with emphasis on keyboarding skills and the Microsoft Suite of applications. Students will develop an increased proficiency keyboarding speed and accuracy. They will, also, better understand Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.  
Length: 1 Semester

### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Seventh grade students focus on rules of punctuation and proper language usage. Students in seventh grade are introduced traits of good writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, and conventions. Seventh graders also study Greek mythology along with Greek and Latin roots. Students analyze poetry in depth and demonstrate their mastery by creating an anthology of different types of poems that includes their own poetry. Seventh graders end the year evaluating short stories and performing as storytellers.  
Length: 1 Year

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## **LIFE SCIENCE**

The seventh grade life science curriculum is a survey of the structures and functions of living things such as plants, animals, and human beings. All these concepts are unfolded as a quest to understand the life that God has created. Case studies, webquests, lab activities, ethics boxes, and questions help students think like scientists and see life science from a biblical perspective. Depending on the year, students will participate in a science career project, inventor's fair, or Myth Busters fair. The textbook is Life Science by BJU Press 2019

Length: 1 Year

## **LIFE SKILLS**

The focus is on prioritizing, scheduling, positive thinking, and communication skills using the text The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, by Sean Covey. Topics covered include self image, friendships, resisting peer pressure, achieving goals, and living with Godly principals.

Length: 1 semester

## **MATHEMATICS 2**

Seventh graders will continue in his/her mastery of operations involving decimals, fractions, percent, place values and integers. They will develop algebraic reasoning and understanding of rational numbers. The skills of graphing functions and measuring three-dimensional figures will be covered as well as multi-step equations and inequalities. Textbook: Mathematics Course 2, Holt McDougal 2010.

Length: 1 year

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The Physical Education curriculum teaches the student to demonstrate competent skills in a variety of physical activities and sports. The Middle School Physical Education Program is designed to encourage lifetime fitness activities as well as team sport activities.

Length: 1 Year

### **SPANISH**

This course introduces and/or increases the students' vocabulary and grammar skills, as well as conversational proficiency and cultural knowledge. Students learn to express basic needs and feelings and use questioning techniques in real-life situations. These skills are expanded through use of the textbook, accompanying workbook, visuals, videos, and conversational Spanish.

Textbook: ¿Que tal?

Length: 1 Semester

### **WORLD GEOGRAPHY**

World Geography studies the countries and continents of today's world. Each country is covered including its physical geography, climate, resources, a brief history, culture, and a focus on its economy and government systems. Also included in World Geography is the study of latitude and longitude where students learn to read and understand different kinds of maps including population maps, climate maps, and political maps. The student also learn about different kinds of graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, flow charts, time lines, and time zones.

Length: 1 Year

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## Eighth Grade

### **AMERICAN HISTORY**

This course surveys the early era of American history from early colonization to the Civil War and Reconstruction. Content for this course include: politics, government, economics, geography, cultural influences, primary source analysis, technology, and information literacy. There will be an emphasis on reading and comprehension of the text, note taking, and collaborative learning.

Textbook: America History of Our Nation—Beginnings Through 1877. 2011. Prentice Hall, publisher.

Length: 1 Year

### **BIBLE**

The eighth grade Bible course is designed to help students clearly understand the tenets of the Christian worldview, and how they compare to the tenets of the leading humanistic worldviews of our day. Students will learn how to apply their Christian faith to every area of life: theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, sociology, psychology, law, politics, economics, and history.

Lightbearers series by Summit Ministries

Length: 1 Year

## **COMPUTER**

This course focuses on deepening their knowledge of the Microsoft Suite applications. They will use and integrate Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher to solve real world type projects.

Length: 1 Semester

## **CRITICAL THINKING**

This course develops higher level thinking skills. It also encourages students to think through various situations to identify relevant information, analyze data, work cooperatively, solve problems and develop into productive members of society. A mixture of group and individual activities, projects, memorization of thought prompts, and other methods are utilized to develop higher level thinking skills, cooperative skills, and problem solving skills that can be utilized in all areas of academic study.

Length: 1 Semester

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Eighth graders review the parts of speech and rules for punctuation in conjunction with diagramming sentences. Students begin with simple sentences but progress to complex ones that include prepositional phrases, appositives, and subordinate clauses. Students in eighth grade read classic literature including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. By the end of the year, students write formal essays with a thesis statement and supporting quotes using MLA documentation.

Length: 1 Year

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## **MATHEMATICS 3**

The eighth grade mathematics class will complete the process of developing a solid foundation for high school math. The eighth graders will solidify their understanding and skills when it comes to the principles of algebra and graphing functions and lines. They will master the foundations of geometry while learning sequences, functions, and polynomials. The textbook used is Mathematics 3 by Holt McDougal, 2010.

## **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

The eighth grade Physical Science course meets the students where they are: in the cafeteria, on the sports field, on the roads, and in the music room. Through physical science, students will learn how everything they do relates to chemistry and physics. In the chemistry chapters they will see the wonder in how matter and energy interacts in the food we eat, the drinks we drink, and the matter that makes up our world. In physics chapters, they will see how things move, why things move, and why objects behave as they do. Depending on the year, students will participate in a science career project, inventor's fair, or Myth Busters fair. The textbook used is Physical Science by BJU Press 2020 Length: 1 Year

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The Physical Education curriculum for eighth grade is designed to encourage lifetime fitness activities as well as team sport activities. These activities include:

1. Strength and Weight Training
2. Fitness Training
3. Endurance Running
4. Ball Skills
5. Team Sports
6. Racquet Sports
7. Sportsmanship Training
8. Anatomy as it relates to Physical Education

Length: 1 Year

## **SPANISH**

This course increases the students' knowledge of Spanish with practical vocabulary, phrases, and idiomatic experience being stressed. Conversations and writings will be more challenging and will pertain to realistic situations. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the historical, cultural and geography of Spanish-speaking countries in the global community.

Textbook: Paso a Paso, Scott Foresman, publisher.

Length: 1 Semester

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## Electives

### **ART**

Art is a class where students will be exposed to visual arts including drawing, painting, sculpture, papier mâché, clay, print making, and others. Students will explore different styles of art and will study the elements of art, principles of design, and sensory and expressive features of visual arts. They also learn to evaluate and analyze works of art.  
Length: 1 Semester

### **BAND**

Participating students will have had at least one year of beginning band experience. Students without band experience, but having taken private musical instrument instruction, must demonstrate their level of playing ability before being accepted. Middle School Band will continue the development of playing technique and general musical knowledge learned in Beginning Band and/or private instruction. Supplementary technique books and band music of varied musical styles and periods will be utilized both in rehearsal and public performance. Participation is required at all band performances.  
Length: 1 Year

### **STEM**

This course is to facilitate practical STEM-related skills. The skills to be developed would be; following detailed instructions, troubleshooting, creativity, computer programming, design, and computer networking. This is a project based class where students will be programming, using Python, to creating a digital camera, and many other fun, skill developing activities.  
Length: 1 Semester

## **MATH PLUS**

This study is designed to combine math with other subject areas, to bring them into the “Real-World”. The study is project based as students work individually and in groups to solve real-life problems. The students will collaborate and share ideas, will use calculators and computers, and will express their thoughts orally and in writing. Source book—Hands-On Math Projects by Muschla and Muschla. 1 Semester

## **INTRODUCTION TO MONEY MANAGEMENT**

Students will learn the importance of money management from the view that everything we have belongs to God. The students will study what the Bible says about stewardship. They will also explore the principles of personal finance set forth by Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace. The students will manage a pretend budget with a checking and savings account. 1 Semester

## **DRAMA**

Theatre is an exciting place that allows students the opportunity to be creative and explore their imagination. This is a semester long course that will introduce the theatre and basic techniques of acting. Projects this semester include:

- Stage Terminology & Vocab
- Movement
- Improvisation
- Stage Voice & Diction
- Pantomime
- Characterization
- Performance Evaluation
- Performance (Scenes & Monologues)

Length: 1 Semester

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## **SEWING**

Sewing is a good life skill to have. In this class, students will learn safety and operation of sewing machines, common quilting terms, rotary cutter safety, and quilt block construction. In doing this, they will learn the parts of the sewing machine, develop safe and accurate cutting skills, the importance of a consistent 1/4" seam for quilting, pressing techniques, block piecing, nesting seams, basting the quilt sandwich, simple machine quilting, and binding the quilt.  
1 Semester







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