



CALVERT
EDUCATION



Course Catalog

Grade 6

Students build their autonomy and explore topics through inquiry-based learning and STEM activities.

English Language Arts

Texts from different genres and periods are introduced. After reading *Bud, Not Buddy*, students reflect on their life experiences and write their own set of rules to live by. They will also study editorials and how they convey opinions, culminating in writing not only their own editorial, but also an opposing editorial. This exercise introduces them to the art of creating a sound argument.

Science

In Grade 6, the focus is on Earth Sciences. Students study the nature of Science, measurement, data collection and analysis, and engineering design principles as a foundation for conducting scientific investigations. Earth Science topics such as astronomy, geology, oceanography, and meteorology are explored through inquiry-based learning and STEM activities that encourage scientific thought.

Social Studies

Students are captivated by the past as they study ancient civilizations that include Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and the Roman Empire, as well as early Asian, American, and African Empires; Europe's Dark Ages through the Renaissance and Reformation; and on into the Age of Enlightenment. Students create an interactive exhibit comparing and contrasting the ways knowledge and opinions were disseminated during the Renaissance/Reformation as compared to modern day.

Math

Students draw on problem-solving skills and prior knowledge to develop an understanding of numbers and operations, compare numbers with percents and ratios, write and evaluate algebraic expressions, study the area of triangles and other polygons, and summarize data distributions. Students learn by planning an event where they must create a menu, determine quantities based on the number of attendees, and then calculate pay rate, sales tax, and gratuity.

Electives

Middle school students can choose from a selection of electives. See page 18 for a complete list of elective courses and descriptions.

Course content subject to change.



Project-based learning brings subject matter to life.

LESSON RESOURCES

Quick Checks – auto-graded assessments to gauge understanding

Math In Focus G6 e-texts

Math In Focus Digi +

Pearson *MyPerspectives ELA* e-texts

Pearson *ReadyGen Text Collection G6* e-texts

Anything but Typical

Bud, not Buddy

HMH *Science Fusion* e-texts:

- *The Dynamic Earth*

- *Earth's Water and Atmosphere*

- *Space Science*

- *Introduction to Science and Technology*

HMH *ScienceFusion* Virtual Labs

McGraw-Hill - *Discovering Our Past*

A History of the World e-text

McGraw-Hill - *Discovering World Geography* e-text

Britannica® School

World Atlas

BrainPOP Interactive Activities

Discovery Education STREAMING

OPTIONAL RESOURCES

Verticy ELA course option for struggling readers

Grade 7

Grade 7 students learn how to conduct research to form their own opinions. They then take what they have learned and apply it to projects that encourage community engagement.

English Language Arts

Projects emphasize gathering information from texts and conducting research to form opinions which students present through a variety of methods. Learners increase their skills by interpreting the ubiquitous information available in our digital age and presenting their analysis through digital means. They are tasked with creating a presentation to the leaders of world nations regarding human colonization of space and writing an art critique by taking virtual tours of the world's most famous museums.

Science

Engaging in virtual labs and diverse instructional materials creates a rich learning experience. Grade 7 students explore life Science through inquiry and scientific thought. Topics include cell function, processes of plants, animal behavior, the systems of the human body, and ecology.

Social Studies

Students explore the essential elements, themes, and branches of the geography of the Eastern and Western hemispheres. They delve into the founding principles and practices of U.S. government and explore topics in economics. Students learn by completing projects such as drafting public policy on an issue they care about and taking steps to effect positive change in their community.

Math

Students develop a strong conceptual understanding of Math skills and concepts. They draw on problem-solving skills and prior knowledge to simplify and solve algebraic expressions, approximate probability and relative frequency, and construct different geometric figures. Students learn to identify the plane shapes, and then use those skills to assemble a three-dimensional object. Designing a bird feeder is one of the project options.

Electives

Middle school students can choose from a selection of electives. See page 18 for a complete list of elective courses and descriptions.

Course content subject to change.



Research is at the core of learning this year.

LESSON RESOURCES

Quick Checks - auto-graded assessments to gauge understanding

Math In Focus G7 e-texts

Math In Focus Digi +

Pearson *MyPerspectives ELA e-texts*

Pearson *ReadyGen Text Collection G7 e-texts*

The Outsiders

Hatchet

HMH Science Fusion e-texts:

- *Cells and Heredity*

- *The Diversity of Living Things*

- *The Human Body*

- *Ecology and the Environment*

HMH ScienceFusion Virtual Labs

McGraw-Hill - *Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States e-text*

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OPTIONAL RESOURCES

Verticy ELA course option for struggling readers

Grade 8

Can you imagine how the American Revolution would have been led if Samuel Adams had social media? How many people would have shown up for the Boston Tea Party? Grade 8 students consider the implications of communications technology and learn about the persuasive power of speech.

English Language Arts

Students increase ownership of their reading growth by forming opinions through research and tackling social issues. Students research rites of passage in cultures throughout the world and compose an article in which they use journalism techniques to illuminate various rites. After reading Elie Wiesel's Nobel-Peace-Prize-winning book, *Night*, students will research a current global issue and write a speech modeled after Wiesel's Nobel acceptance speech, calling the audience to action.

Science

Grade 8 students use prerequisite knowledge of physical Science to deepen their understanding of topics such as the properties of matter, chemical bonding and reactions, motion, forces, energy, and the properties of sound and light waves. Virtual labs and digital simulations create an engaging experience for middle-school learners.

History

How can today's students relate to events of the past? Grade 8 students study U.S. History from the first Americans through the American Revolution, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Then they develop a social media campaign to convince colonists to either declare independence or stay loyal to England.

Math

Students draw on problem-solving skills and prior knowledge to develop a deep understanding of algebraic equations through data analysis and statistical applications and through an exploration of functions including graphing linear equations. Students will also learn about exponential and scientific notation, the Pythagorean Theorem, and how to apply geometric transformations. Learners are challenged to use equations to compare fitness center membership options.

Electives

Middle school students can choose from a selection of electives. See page 18 for a complete list of elective courses and descriptions.

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Learners prepare for high school.

LESSON RESOURCES

Quick Checks - auto-graded assessments to gauge understanding

Math In Focus G8 e-texts

Math In Focus Digi +

Pearson *MyPerspectives ELA* e-text

Night

Ender's Game

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

HMH *Science Fusion* e-texts:

- *Matter and Energy*

- *Motion, Forces, and Energy*

- *Sound and Light*

HMH *ScienceFusion* Virtual Labs

McGraw-Hill - *Discovering World Geography* e-text

McGraw-Hill - *Building Citizenship: Civics and Economics* e-text

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Middle School Electives

Calvert offers a range of electives to keep middle-schoolers curious and engaged. Students learn about other cultures and other times through the study of world languages, art, and art history. They have the opportunity to explore careers and acquire new skills. Then, kids get the chance to step away from the computer and practice the health and fitness strategies they've learned.

Art and Art History 6: Sculpture

In this course, students study Egyptian line drawing, soft-dough sculpture, relief sculpture and symmetry. Lessons are coordinated with Art History – in which students learn about the sculpture of ancient times all the way through present day.

Art and Art History 7: Architecture

Students apply concepts from Art History, to incorporate what they have learned about trilithons and step pyramids to design various buildings and structures.

Spanish A

Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, and comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns.

Spanish B

Spanish B students participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts. They will analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries. Students take frequent assessments to monitor their language progression.

French A

Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Class discussions provide an opportunity for discourse using newly acquired French speaking skills. The Audio Recording Tool enables students to learn a critical skill for French: listening and speaking.

French B

In French B, students learn personal greetings and continuing through practical communications exchanges. French B introduces students to the skills necessary to make the most of traveling to French-speaking countries.

Middle School Career Explorations

In this course, students explore career options in many different fields including business, health science, public administration, the arts, and information technology.

Middle School Journalism

Who? What? When? Where? Why? And How? Journalism provides us with the answers to these questions about the events that affect our lives. In this course, students will learn how to gather information, organize ideas, format stories for different forms of news media, and edit their stories for publication. The course will also examine the historical development of journalism and the role of journalism in society.

Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light

This course introduces students to the basics of photography, including camera functions and photo composition. Students will learn how to take well-composed photographs and improve upon them using photo-editing software. Young photographers will engage their creativity by shooting a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of their camera.

Middle School Health

Beginning with properly defining health, this course then builds upon basic health practices to emphasize the importance of balance. Attention is given to each of the six dimensions of wellness: physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social, and environmental. Students are encouraged to reflect upon their own personal wellness each week.

Fitness Basics 1

Students will gain a basic understanding of fitness and nutrition. In this course, they will learn about exercise technique and proper posture, warm up and cool down. Students conduct fitness assessments, set goals, develop their own fitness program, and participate in weekly physical activity.

Fitness Basics 2

This course provides students with a basic understanding of the importance of staying active throughout their lifetime. Students will learn about exercise safety, team and individual sports, nutrition and myths and misperceptions about nutrition and drugs.



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