

# Sixth Grade Exploratory Course Descriptions

## Computer I

Students taking this fun class learn how to use Microsoft Word for projects ranging from school posters to formal reports. We also learn how to navigate Google Drive and Docs. Students learn about Digital Etiquette, Internet Safety, and how to deal with Cyber-bullying. This course also focuses extensively on proper keyboarding techniques.

## Physical Education/Health

An offering of numerous individual and team activities to help develop and encourage lifelong fitness and healthy living. Activities include basketball, Soccer, softball, volleyball, physical fitness, and health units, including reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. This course is required.

## Fitness and Swim

This class is designed to improve your current fitness level through the use of cardiovascular techniques. Some of the techniques used will be jumping rope, movement stations, and games. This course will include boater-safety and off-road vehicle certification. In the pool, students will learn how to perform the back, side, and free-style strokes, as well as participate in many fun aquatic activities.

## 6th grade Vocal Music

At the 6th grade level of vocal music, students will be introduced to the art of singing and developing their voices. They will also focus on learning and understanding musical skills that will help them to become quality musicians. In 6th grade chorus we focus on teaching students to read music, follow a score and work cooperatively towards a common goal as well as start to help students learn how to sing with a quality and healthy sound. Students will be expected to perform 2 concerts a year at BMS. They will also be able to perform at smaller venues as opportunities arise.

## Beginning Band

This class is designed as an introductory class for students who wish to play a band instrument and learn the basics of reading music and band performance. This class is intended for sixth grade students who have not had previous band experience or have played a band instrument for less than one year. Standard band instrument instruction will be offered, including flute, oboe, clarinet, alto and tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone horn and drum kit (bells and snare drum). Drum kit players will only be accepted into this class by passing the Selmer music aptitude test and receiving permission of the instructor. Students will be required to rent and/or purchase their own instrument and music book for this class. Instrument testing and try-out sessions will be held during the first two weeks of the school year to determine the best instrument "fit" for your child. Sixth grade beginning band will teach music reading skills, instrument performance skills, correct breathing skills, rhythm and counting skills and elementary aspects of musicianship. Students are required to performance in two evening concerts.

## 6th Grade Band

This class is designed for students with a minimum of one year experience on the band instrument they currently perform on. Standard band instrumentation is offered, with some opportunities for additional instrumentation, such as tuba. In most cases, students are required to rent and/or purchase their own instrument and music book(s) for this class. 6th Grade Band reinforces the basic skills, techniques and musicianship taught in the beginning band setting, and expands the student's basic musical knowledge. Performance in two evening concerts is required.

## Art I

Art I is an introduction to 2-D Art. Students will learn the basic elements of Art and Design as well as basic skills and techniques. Art students will be introduced to a variety of media including pencil drawing, oil pastels, and painting.

## Art II

This course is a continuation of 2-D Art I. Art II has more in depth projects using variety of media. Must take ART I as a prerequisite.

## Literacy Skills

This course is designed to reinforce and enhance literacy through a variety of fun and meaningful projects including games, and hands-on reading and writing activities.

## Foods and Nutrition

Students will become familiar with the guidelines for healthy eating. Some of the following topics will be covered: nutrients, healthy food choices, kitchen safety and sanitation, cooking terminology, measurements, and how to read a recipe. The last few weeks will be spent on cooking labs. Class lessons include lecture, hands-on activities, reading, writing, homework, labs, and quizzes.

## Robotics

In this class, students will design and build programmable robots using motors, sensors, gears, wheels, axles, and other technical components. By using hands-on robotics, students will gain a better understanding of how technology works in real world applications.

**Most importantly, students will develop problem-solving and collaboration skills, as well as a growth mindset.**