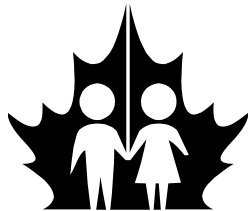



Curriculum Overview

Grade 7

The Grade 7 program is designed to begin to prepare the students for their entry into high school. Students are expected to take on a greater responsibility for their own learning. This includes academic and social responsibilities, organizational strategies, study techniques, long-term and short-term planning. This document is an overview of curriculum objectives. The Maples Curriculum is designed to enhance the Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum objectives.



The Maples

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Visual Arts

Knowledge of Elements

- describe how the repetition of elements is used to create rhythm
- describe how two-point perspective is used to create the illusion of depth

Creative Work

- produce two- and three-dimensional works of art
- organize their art works to communicate ideas, using at least one of the principles of design specified for this grade

Critical Thinking

- describe how artists representing a variety of historical periods, styles, and cultures have used the elements and principles of design to create a specific effect
- explain their preference for specific art works, with reference to the artist's intentional use of the elements and principles of design

Drama and Dance

The drama and dance curriculum is intended to help students to develop an understanding and appreciation of drama and dance, as well as the ability to create works using the forms, elements, and techniques of these two disciplines.

- demonstrate an understanding of the motives of characters interpreted through drama and dance
- write in role in various forms
- explain the significance of props, costumes, etc. in performances
- interpret and present scripts
- describe how different cultures use drama and dance

Values

The Values curriculum is a school-wide program with the following components:

Social Skills

The *Working It Out* program is designed to help students develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to address everyday conflicts constructively and peacefully.

Character Education

"Managing Emotions"

The goal of this program is to give students a better understanding that both positive and negative emotions are *normal* and that positive thoughts lead to positive emotions and actions.

Service Project

Through the *Outreach to Seniors* program, students will complete a meaningful project with seniors at a local residence.

World Religion

In the grade seven year *The Maples* students will study the fundamentals of the Islamic faith.

Geography

The Themes of Geographic Inquiry

- identify the themes that geographers use: location/place, environment, region, interaction, movement
- demonstrate an understanding of geographic inquiry

Patterns in Physical Geography

- world landform patterns
- world climate patterns
- major river systems
- types of agriculture

Natural Resources

- renewable, non-renewable and flow resources
- how Canada's natural resources have contributed to its economic development

Physical and Health Education

The students will participate in individual and team sports and games designed to promote good sportsmanship, leadership, respect for rules and cooperation with others. The program is intended to provide activities that will develop flexibility, agility, coordination, balance, strength and endurance. The students are encouraged to participate in intramural sports programs. Skills are developed in touch football, volleyball, floor hockey, basketball, downhill skiing, soccer, three pitch softball, track and field and cooperative games.

Health topics include

- *Healthy Eating*
 - describe how our body image influences our food choices
- *Personal Safety and Injury Prevention*
 - describe harassment and identify ways of dealing with it
- *Growth and Development*
 - identify the methods of transmission and the symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and ways to prevent them
- *Substance Use and Abuse*
 - identify and categorize drugs as stimulants, depressants, and hallucinogens

Music

The instrumental music program is designed with the following student learning objectives:

Technique

- progressively more difficult band pieces of classical, jazz, ethnic and popular natures

Rhythmic Elements

- sixteenth notes and syncopated rhythms


Melodic Elements

- moving to selections with an ambitus of greater than an octave in several parts

Content

- professional arrangements of material

Students are expected to show responsibility in setting up and implementing a regular home practice routine.



English

The grade 7 program is designed to develop a range of essential skills in reading, writing and oral and visual communication. A solid foundation in language skills and an appreciation of literature and skills in using oral language accurately and effectively are developed through:

- a variety of reading experiences including, but not limited to: novels, short stories, plays, poetry and newspapers
- response to literature through discussion
- response to literature through writing
- writing for a variety of purposes (short stories, poetry, letters, persuasive writing, essays etc. using the writing process)
- spelling and grammar lessons; conventions of writing
- oral presentations including a formal speech

Novels studied in grade 7 are selected from, but not limited to, the list below. An evaluation of both the readers' interests and comprehension skills are considered when novels are chosen.

<i>A Question of Loyalty</i>	<i>Tom Sawyer</i>
<i>The Westing Game</i>	<i>Maniac Magee</i>
<i>Old Yeller</i>	<i>Shane</i>
<i>Treasure Island</i>	<i>The Hobbit</i>
<i>The Outsiders</i>	<i>Call of the Wild</i>
<i>The Giver</i>	<i>The King's Daughter</i>
<i>Jeremy's War</i>	

In addition to the formal novel studies, the students are expected to read and present reports on several supplementary novels throughout the year.

French

Oral Communication, Reading and Writing

- listen to and talk about short, oral texts in structured and open-ended situations
- use compound sentences in conversations and dialogues
- read simple texts and identify main ideas and supporting details
- use various reading strategies to determine meaning
- write simple and compound sentences using familiar and new vocabulary
- revise and edit personal writing

Grammar, Language Conventions and Vocabulary

- present tense of the irregular verbs *vouloir, pouvoir, partir, sortir and devoir*
- agreement of verb with with compound subject
- demonstrative adjectives (*ce/cet/cette/ces*)
- adjectives that precede the noun (e.g. *grand, petit, nouveau*)
- singular, plural feminine and masculine of some irregular adjectives
- the prepositions à and de plus the definite article (e.g. *au/aux, du/des*)
- use of related spelling patterns and sounds associated with accents (e.g. , *aigu, grave cédille*)

Mathematics

The mathematics curriculum is organized into five major areas of knowledge and skills.

Number Sense and Numeration

- represent, compare, and order numbers, including integers
- demonstrate an understanding of addition and subtraction of fractions and integers, and apply a variety of computational strategies to solve problems involving whole numbers and decimal numbers
- demonstrate an understanding of proportional relationships using percent ratio, and rate

Measurement

- perimeter and circumference
- area and surface area
- volume
- capacity
- mass
- irregular shapes

Geometry and Spatial Sense

- identify, describe, compare and classify geometric figures
- angle properties and relationships
- recognize three-dimensional figures

Patterning and Algebra

- relationships between whole numbers and variables
- write statements to interpret formulas
- identify and evaluate expressions
- solve equations
- inequalities

Data Management and Probability

- collect, organize and analyse data
- tally charts, stem and leaf plots, frequency tables
- mean, median and mode
- present data using spreadsheets
- bar graphs, circle graphs, pictographs, histograms
- construct graphic organizers using computers

Computer Education

The use of computers is encouraged and implemented in all subject areas. Computer instruction includes

- **Keyboarding** - use and refine keyboarding skills established in earlier grades
- **Word Processing** - use tabs, columns and tables
- **Graphics** - modify digital photos
- **Databases** - analyze data in a data base
- **Spreadsheets** - create, enter and edit formulae (i.e., Excel)
- **Multimedia** - use an interactive program to present information through text, pictures and sound (i.e., PowerPoint)
- **Electronic Communications** - gather and compare information

Science and Technology

Students are given opportunities to "experience" and learn about the wonders of science and the world around them.

Life Systems

Interactions Within Ecosystems

- factors that affect the balance of ecosystems
- identify living and non-living elements
- interpret food webs and food chains

Matter and Materials

Pure Substances and Mixtures

- heterogeneous and homogenous mixtures
- saturated, unsaturated and supersaturated solutions
- identify solutions that exist as solids, liquids and gases

Energy and Control

Heat

- distinguish between heat and temperature
- compare motion of particles using the particle theory
- conduction, convection and radiation

Structures and Mechanisms

Structural Strength and Stability

- classify structures as mass, frame or shell
- design and make a variety of structures
- measure the performance of a structure

Earth and Space Systems

The Earth's Crust

- composition of the Earth's Crust
- mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes
- the rock cycle

Science Week

- design an investigation using the Scientific Method

History

Students will study the history of Canada from the colonization of New France to pre-Confederation. Topics of study include:

New France

- relations with aboriginal groups
- empire building
- Battle of the Plains of Abraham
- expulsion of the Acadians
- Quebec Act

British North America

- American Revolution
- Loyalists
- War of 1812
- The "Underground Railway"
- life in English Canada

Conflict and Change

- rebellions of 1837 in Upper and Lower Canada
- Durham Report
- union of the Canadas
- responsible government