



**Concord Lutheran School
Bensenville, IL
Curriculum Guide
Eighth Grade**

Welcome to Concord in the name of our Lord Jesus. We believe that communication is vital to the success of our students. Our partnership with parents and families will help your understanding of the school's goals and skills in your child's grade level. As a child of God we value highly the success of our students. This guide is a brief summary of the curriculum that your child will experience at Concord Lutheran School.

Religion/Confirmation

Through the religion curriculum students will continue their lifelong journey in the Christian faith. The relationship God has with us and others is one that is not only lifelong but eternal. It is a living and ongoing process. As people of faith, it is our fervent prayer that the study of the Word of God allows the Holy Spirit to work in and through all who study and work here so that their lives might be one of Christian hope, service, and love.

Eighth grade students will learn:

- The knowledge of God's Word and growth through the books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments.
- About Baptism, and Lutheran History over the ages
- The entire Small Catechism, The Gospels
- Creation and the book of Genesis
- The end times in the book of Revelation
- About being good stewards of their time, talents, and treasures as they serve others and support a mission opportunity with their weekly chapel offering

Language Arts

Through the study of language arts, students will learn to read fluently and understand a broad range of written materials. They must be able to communicate well and listen carefully and effectively. They should develop a command of the language and demonstrate their knowledge through speaking and writing for a variety of audiences and purposes. In addition, students must be able to study, retain, and use information from many sources.

Students will:

- Select reading strategies according to the purpose, structure, and genre of text
- Apply word analysis strategies to decode unknown words
- Use prefixes, suffixes, and roots to understand word meanings
- Identify and explain the main idea of a text
- Read aloud with fluency and expression
- Use specific information to form questions, verify predictions, and support thinking
- Identify compare, and contrast story elements
- Analyze, compare, and contrast themes, conflicts, and perspectives
- Use a variety of sentence structures to express thoughts
- Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and structure in writing
- Use the writing process to produce persuasive, narrative, descriptive, and expository written pieces
- Display attentive listening behaviors and listen for specific purposes
- Ask and respond to questions related to oral presentations
- Prepare and deliver an oral presentation
- Determine appropriateness and usefulness of reference materials for a given topic
- Use available technology as a publishing method for sharing information

Math

The mathematics curriculum provides necessary number, problem-solving, and high-order thinking skills that will benefit the students in all phases of their lives. Students will be instructed by challenging them to succeed to the best of their God-given abilities.

Students will:

- Develop a sense of numbers in order to represent and use them in flexible ways
- Use a variety of strategies to solve story problems
- Apply knowledge of equivalences among fractions, mixed numbers, decimals, powers and percents in solving problems
- Understand and apply the inverse relationship of squaring and square roots
- Read, write, compare, and order integers, fractions, mixed numbers, decimals, and percents
- Solve addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems involving number in scientific notation
- Use perimeter and area formulas for rectangles, squares, triangles, parallelograms, and trapezoids
- Compute and use slopes of linear functions
- Collect, organize, display, interpret, and evaluate data to derive an algebraic expression
- Apply knowledge to two and three-dimensional geometric figures to solve problems
- Know the Pythagorean Theorem and use it to solve problems
- Know when it is appropriate to use mean, median, mode, and range
- Formulate predictions and draw conclusions from information represented on graphs, charts, and tables

Science

The science curriculum emphasizes that God created the universe and is the preserver of all the laws of nature. The interpretation of scientific data is done in accordance with God's Word. The students are exposed to a variety of authentic learning experiences to nurture creative and critical thinking skills. It seeks to enable students to develop these skills and is designed to teach students to seek God in all things and to treat all of God's creation in a loving and respectful manner.

Students will:

- Know and apply the concepts, principles and processes of scientific inquiry, including: problem identification, formulate hypothesis, conduct experiments, observation, data collection analysis and conclusion
- Know and apply the concepts, principles and processes of technological design
- Know and apply concepts that describe properties of matter and energy and the interactions between them
- Identify physical and chemical properties and changes of matter, such as: length, mass, volume, density, and weight
- Explain the laws of conservation of mass, motion and energy
- Know and apply concepts that describe force and motion and the principles that explain them
- Understand electric charges in current, electricity, magnetism at work
- Know characteristics of sound and light waves
- Know and apply concepts that explain how living things function, adapt and change

8th grade Science continued

- Understand human biology and health through: bones, muscles, skin, food and digestion, circulation, respiration and excretion, fighting disease, nervous system, endocrine and reproduction systems

Social Studies

The social studies curriculum emphasizes the study of the individual Christian's relationships with other human beings and with God's world. The students will learn to respect and appreciate others and our environment as a unique gift from God. Critical thinking skills are practiced so that students learn how to make value judgments and wise decisions.

Students will:

- Understand and describe geographic features and landforms of the Seven Continents and how they affect society and cultures
- Explain the fall of Rome and Byzantine Empires
- Explain the clash of religions, rise of Christianity, and the rise of Islam
- Identify middle age Europe, Asia and Aztec, Inca, and North American Civilizations
- Understand the role of Korean, Chinese, and Japanese Civilizations
- Explain the principles of the Reformation and Renaissance, Age of Imperialism, and Industrial Revolution
- Understand the role in US History 20th Century and the Spanish American War-Cold War