



Middle School Core Choices

2009-2010

NOTE: (R) = Revolving; students will complete multiple pieces or units during the year; request another unit prior to the time when it is needed.

COMPREHENSIVE ONLINE CURRICULUM

Time4Learning

Gr. 6-7

Time4Learning is a new approach that takes advantage of today's technology. It's a convenient, online home education program that combines learning with fun educational teaching games.

Time4Learning helps parents build interesting diverse days. By shifting from computer-based lessons to discussion, or from paper and pencil exercises to art projects, children stay engaged and benefit from different teaching methods. Variety keeps children motivated and attentive throughout the day. Time4Learning's online learning system combines in one homeschool curriculum interactive lessons, multimedia reinforcement activities, printable worksheets, learning games, and assessments with reports.

Subjects Covered: All subjects; 7th grade does not include Social Studies-additional curriculum will need to be ordered

Format: Online program – requires Internet access

Learning Style: multi-sensory

Teaching Style: structured, low prep, moderate interaction required; basic computer skills required

For a Better Look...

Check out www.time4learning.com

LANGUAGE ARTS



Signature Series Anthologies

Gr. 6

Traditional Textbook: Anthologies in this series cover a variety of genres, cross-curricular literature, award-winning selections, authors, and illustrators. Associated workbooks cover phonics and reading skills.

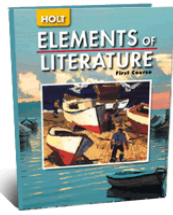
Format: textbooks with consumable/reproducible workbooks

Language Arts Strands Covered: Phonics, reading comprehension, reading skills

Learning Style: traditional textbook format, colorful, high interest

Teaching Style: traditional textbook instruction; structured or flexible, some prep; moderate interaction required.

Publisher: Harcourt School Publishers



Elements of Literature 2003

Gr. 6-8

Utilizes a skills-centered approach and a foundation of literature. Students are able to learn and master one skill at a time while being immersed in classic and contemporary literature. Colorful, high interest. Auxiliary materials available also for free on the Internet. Teaches writing as well as literature skills.

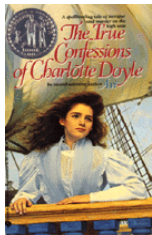
Format: traditional hardback text

Language Arts Strands Covered: reading, writing

Learning Style: traditional public school

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

Publisher: Holt Rinehart



(R)TLC Literature Units

Gr. 6-8

Literature-based units with a growing title list. Select a title and receive a reading guide and away you go! Excellent for students who love to read.

Language Arts Strands Covered: reading comprehension, reading skills

Format: Literature guides plus related novels/stories

Learning Style: directed, for students who want to learn using novels of their choice

Teaching Style: Structured, no prep, moderate interaction required

WRITING



English

Gr. 6

This program helps students become powerful, motivated writers by building strong grammar, usage, and mechanics skills through real-world applications.

Language Arts Strands Covered: grammar, writing

Format: traditional hardback textbook with consumable workbook

Learning Style: reading/writing

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, moderate prep, moderate interaction required; high parent support

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin



Elements of Language

Gr. 6-8

In four comprehensive parts—communications; sentences and paragraphs; grammar, usage, and mechanics; and the quick reference handbook, this program addresses a range of literacies through lessons focusing on reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and representing.

Language Arts Strands Covered: writing, grammar

Format: traditional hardback textbook with reproducible activity pages

Learning Style: traditional textbook, reading/writing

Teaching Style: flexible or structured, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

Publisher: Holt Rinehart



(R) Writing for Different Purposes Series

Gr. 6-8

Students can become better writers with the four books (Persuasive Writing, Narrative Writing, Expository Writing, Descriptive Writing) in this series. Each 64-page book provides practical ideas, useful strategies, and lively how to's for exploring a particular style of writing. Teachers will appreciate the creative reproducibles, graphic organizers, mini-lessons, checklists, and many more exciting activities that motivate students. Families check out one book in the series at a time.

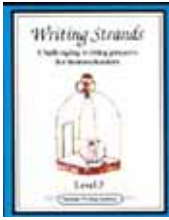
Language Arts Strands Covered: writing

Format: Reproducible

Learning Style: reading/writing, directed

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, low prep, moderate interaction

Publisher: Scholastic Books



Writing Strands, Level 3

Gr. 6-8

Writing Strands presents exercises that were written so that everything the students need to know to do the work is in the assignments. Most students take one year to complete a level. The instructions in each assignment in each level include identifying the skill being presented; suggesting the number of days (sessions) the average student should need to do the work; listing objectives of the exercise, so you will know what parts of the skill will be learned; presenting a model, so that the child will understand what the work will be like; giving pre-writing exercises—the child is asked to examine things or is encouraged to talk about, or read about the subject before writing; presenting clear and detailed instructions for the writing .

Language Strands Covered: Writing

Format: Soft-back book and Teacher's edition

Learning Style: structured

Teaching Style: structured, low prep and low interaction

Publisher: Writing Strands



(R)Inside Writing

Gr. 6-8

Sentences, Paragraphs, Narratives, Descriptions, Expository Essays, Persuasive Essays, Responses to Literature, Research Reports, Letters

The *Inside Writing* units address basic types of writing, including those types often featured on state tests. There are nine units per grade level. All of the units are ready to implement: everything students need to complete their work is included, from step-by-step guidelines to high-interest writing models and space for students to do their work. Each page within the unit is self-contained, providing students with clear starting and stopping points. The design of these writing units makes them especially helpful for struggling writers. The Teacher's Edition contains helpful background information, daily lesson plans, assessed writing samples, prompts for additional writing, and much more.

NOTE: The Description unit will come first unless Sentences or Paragraphs has been specially requested.

Language Strands Covered: Writing

Format: Portfolio style

Learning Style: structured, has suggestions for multiple learning styles

Teaching Style: structured

Publisher: Write Source



Write Source

Gr. 6-8

Write Source for grades 6, 7, and 8 reflects the latest research on writing and learning and provides everything students need to become better writers, thinkers, and learners in every classroom, including clear coverage of the writing process and the six traits of writing within every unit; detailed information on all the key forms of writing, complete with student models, clear writing guidelines, and practice activities; integrated mechanics, usage, and grammar activities. Much simpler to use than the original *Write Source* yet retaining the handbook format, this new program has exercises built right into the student handbook.

Language Strands Covered: Writing, grammar

Format: handbook with exercises included; teacher's edition, grammar workbook (optional)

Learning Style: visual

Teaching Style: May be used in structured or flexible format; low prep, moderate interaction

Publisher: Great Source

GRAMMAR



Core Skills: Language Arts

Gr. 6-8

Developed to improve grammar skills and standardized test scores, this program contains activities that present only one skill per page, beginning with the grammatical rule and specific examples that model the following activities. The “Rule-example-practice” activity format is ideal for independent study.

Language Arts Strands Covered: grammar

Format: consumable workbook

Learning Style: reading/writing, independent

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required

Publisher: Steck-Vaughn



Easy Grammar

Gr. 6-8

Just like it says...easy. The idea is to cross out prepositions first and then it becomes easier to classify the remainder of the sentence. Lots of reinforcement.

Language Arts Strands Covered: grammar

Format: Teacher's soft back book plus student worksheets

Learning Style: directed, incremental

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required

Publisher: Easy Grammar Systems



Daily Grams

Gr. 6-8

Designed to take 10 minutes every day. Reviews five basic skills: capitalization, punctuation, grammar, usage, and sentence combining.

Language Arts Strands Covered: grammar

Format: student workbook

Learning Style: directed, daily reinforcement

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required.

Publisher: Easy Grammar Systems

SPELLING/VOCABULARY



Spelling Power

Gr. 6-8

Requiring just [15 minutes](#) a day, Spelling Power is totally individualized. Everything needed to teach each of your students spelling skills to the college level is contained in this one easy-to-use, step-by-step curriculum manual. Placement tests tell you exactly where each of your students should begin. Once their placement level has been determined, your students will use the research proven test-study-test method, along with immediate self-correction, to master word lists which are organized by phonetic principles and spelling rules.

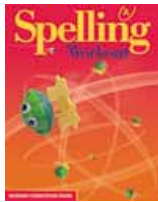
Language Arts Strands Covered: Spelling

Format: Teacher's manual with student workbook

Learning Style: visual

Teaching Style: structured, low prep, moderate interaction

Publisher: Castlemoyle



Spelling Workout

Gr. 6-8

This program uses a kid-friendly sports theme to help make learning spelling systematic and fun! Student edition includes cross-curricular reading selections, high utility list words, writing/proofreading exercises, and a dictionary at the back of each book. The beginning of each lesson has a spelling "rule" clearly stated so children may memorize it.

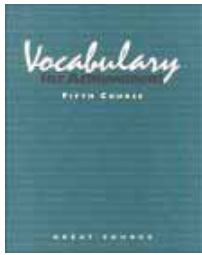
Language Arts Strands Covered: spelling

Format: consumable workbook

Learning Style: reading/writing

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required

Publisher: Modern Curriculum Press (MCP)



Vocabulary for Achievement

Gr. 6-8

Introductory Course

First Course

Second Course

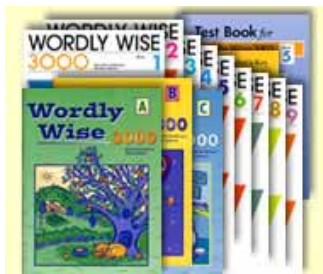
This program helps students understand and use words effectively. Each level of the program contains 30 six-page lessons featuring 10 grade-level appropriate words to help students build a solid vocabulary. Now, all analogy sections are compatible with the types of analogies found on the SAT—to provide effective preparation for the SAT and other college-entrance exams.

Language Arts Strands Covered: vocabulary

Learning Style: reading/writing, directed

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required

Publisher: Great Source



Wordly Wise 3000

Gr. 6-8

Book 3

Book 4

Book 5

Offers carefully selected words from literature, textbooks, and SAT-prep books to instruct by using reading, writing, and a variety of exercises. Each 15-word lesson begins with an alphabetized word list that gives pronunciations, parts of speech, and concise definitions, and uses each word in a sentence. Engaging sentences provide a mnemonic anchor for the word.

Exercises in each lesson encourage students to apply word meanings, think critically, and discover word relationships. Short narratives are featured in each lesson and allow students to experience words in context.

Language Arts Strands Covered: vocabulary

Format: consumable workbook

Learning Style: directed, independent

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required

Publisher: EPS



Vocabulary from Classical Roots

Gr. 6-8

Level A

Level B

Level C

Vocabulary from Classical Roots is a challenging vocabulary series that teaches strategies for determining unknown word meanings using Greek and Latin roots. Understanding and applying knowledge of Greek and Latin roots helps increase vocabulary and reading comprehension, providing students with a useful, transferable technique for making sense of unfamiliar vocabulary across content areas and on standardized tests including the SAT I and II.

Language Arts Strands Covered: vocabulary

Format: consumable workbook and answer key

Learning Style: classical approach

Teaching Style: structured, no prep, low interaction required.

Publisher: EPS

MATHEMATICS



Traditional Textbook Math

Gr. 6

This program offers carefully developed concepts within and across the mathematic strands. It is designed to build conceptual understanding, skill proficiency, problem solving ability, and logical reasoning. Has more of an elementary format rather than middle school format

Format: hardback textbook

Learning Style: traditional textbook format with optional opportunities for reteaching and challenging the students.

Teaching Style: structured, moderate prep, moderate interaction required, provides high teaching support

Publisher: varies



Saxon Math

Gr. 6-8

Math 76

Math 87 (Pre-algebra)

Algebra 1

This program is based on introducing a topic to a student and then allowing the student to build upon that concept as they learn new ones. Topics are never dropped, but are instead increased in complexity and practiced every day, providing the time required for concepts to become totally familiar.

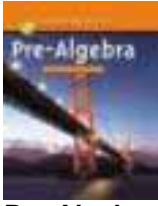
The New Saxon programs for upper grades include a student text, tests and worksheets, and a solutions manual that has full, step-by-step answers to all of the lesson problems.

Format: softback text (nonconsumable); comes with complete solutions manuals and test booklets (consumable)

Learning Style: students who benefit from incremental teaching and lots of reinforcement

Teaching Style: structured, low prep, low interaction required, provides high teaching support (includes solutions manual)

Publisher: Saxon Publishers



Pre-Algebra

Grades 6-8

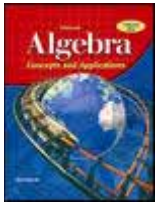
Students may use both the textbook and online activities to master math skills.

Format: traditional textbook (optional free activities available on Internet); optional practice workbook

Learning Style: traditional public school approach, computer motivated. High interest, colorful format

Teaching Style: structured, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

Publisher: Prentice Hall or Glencoe



Grade 8

Students may use both the textbook and online activities to master math skills.

Format: traditional textbook (optional free activities available on Internet); optional practice workbook

Learning Style: traditional public school approach, computer motivated. High interest, colorful format

Teaching Style: structured, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

Publisher: Glencoe



Grade 8

The content provides students of all abilities with essential preparation in problem solving, calculator usage, and application lessons that demonstrate how algebra is integrated with related content areas such as geometry, probability, and statistics.

Format: traditional textbook; optional practice workbook

Learning Style: traditional public school approach, high interest, low-readability

Teaching Style: structured, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

Publisher: AGS

SOCIAL STUDIES



Traditional Textbook Social Studies

Gr. 6-8

Employs a content-rich, relevant narrative to provide an integrated approach to skills development and reading support. Standard public school textbook with activity materials.

Format: traditional textbook with reproduced Study Workbook; audio versions of the textbook are available for ESL students or students with reading difficulties.

Learning Style: traditional textbook format; online activities can be used to reinforce learning

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, moderate prep, moderate interaction required, provides high teaching support

Publisher: varies



(R) A History of US

Gr. 8

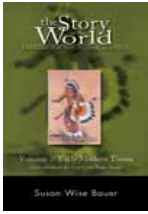
Your child will learn all about American history in an interesting format. No stale textbook here. Each volume covers a specific period of our history. They work great as a backbone of a Unit Study as well as for read-aloud and private readings. **Eighth Grade students should at least cover volumes from Civil War Era (book 6) to the present.**

Format: multi-volume set of non-consumable readers with reproducible study sheets and tests

Learning Style: dependent or independent

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, moderate prep, moderate to high interaction required

Publisher: Oxford Press



The Story of the World, vol. 1-4

Gr. 6-8

Volume 1: The Ancients (5000 BC – 400 AD) Grade 6

Volume 2: The Middle Ages (400 – 1600 AD) Grade 7

Volume 3: Early Modern Times (1600 – 1850 AD) Grade 7

Volume 4: The Modern Age (1850-1994) Grade 8

Told in a straightforward, engaging style this four-volume set covers the sweep of human history from ancient times until the present. Find out what happened around the world in long-ago times. This read-aloud series is designed for parents to share with elementary school children. Activity books, tests, and student pages accompany all three volumes.

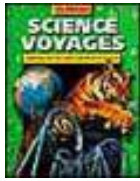
Format: soft bound book plus consumable or reproducible activity book and test packet

Learning Style: multi-age, auditory, project and activity based

Teaching Style: flexible, moderate prep, moderate to high interaction required

Publisher: Peace Hill Press

SCIENCE



Science Voyages

Gr. 6-8

Life Science

Earth Science

Physical Science

Traditional textbooks provide abundant information on one of the three strands of science listed above. Numerous online tools for learning science (study guides, online quizzes, web links, etc.)

Format: traditional hardback textbook and reproducible workbooks

Learning Style: traditional public school, multi-sensory

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

Publisher: Glencoe



(R)Science Explorer Series

Gr. 6-8

Life Science

Earth Science

Physical Science

Your student will focus on a strand of science listed above in series of 4-7 books. This series provides a great alternative to a traditional textbook. This program has a balance of content and hands-on science inquiry.

Format: multi-volume set of non-consumable books

Learning Style: multi-sensory

Teaching Style: structured or flexible, moderate prep

Publisher: Prentice Hall