



## Middle School Core Choices

2011-2012

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

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### ONLINE CURRICULUM

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#### 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:** Language Arts and Math; Social Studies and Science curriculum will need to be ordered

**Format:** Online program – requires Internet access; Grade level Content Standards will also be given

**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](http://www.time4learning.com)

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### READING

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#### 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

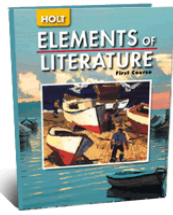
**Language Arts Strands Covered:** Phonics, reading comprehension, reading skills

**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

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### 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

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### Glencoe Literature: Reader's Choice

**Gr. 7-8**

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.

\*Limited Teacher's Editions available\*

**Format:** traditional hardback text

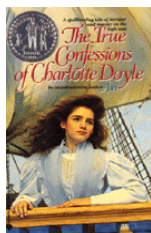
**Language Arts Strands Covered:** reading, writing

**Learning Style:** traditional public school

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

**Publisher:** Glencoe

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Great for Accelerated Reader!

### (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

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## WRITING

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### 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

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### 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

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### (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

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### **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

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### **(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

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## **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

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## GRAMMAR

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### **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

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### **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

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### **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

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## SPELLING/VOCABULARY

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### **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

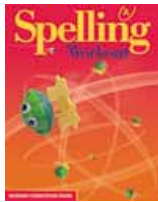
**Format:** Teacher's manual with student workbook

**Learning Style:** visual

**Teaching Style:** structured, low prep after initial level assessment, moderate interaction

**Publisher:** Castlemoyle

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### **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

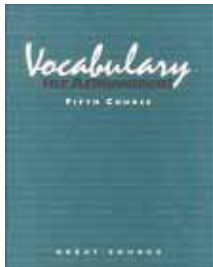
**Format:** consumable workbook

**Learning Style:** reading/writing

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

**Publisher:** Modern Curriculum Press (MCP)

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## **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.

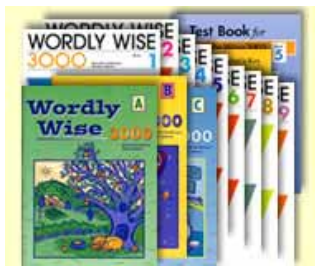
**Language Arts Strands Covered:** vocabulary

**Learning Style:** reading/writing, directed

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

**Publisher:** Great Source

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## **Wordly Wise 3000**

**Gr. 6-8**

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

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## **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

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## MATHEMATICS

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### **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

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### **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.

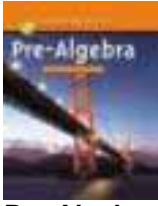
**Format:** softback text (nonconsumable); comes with complete solutions manuals and test booklets (consumable)

**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

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**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

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**Pre-Algebra  
Grades 6-8**

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.

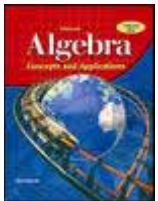
**Format:** traditional textbook; optional practice workbook

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

**Teaching Style:** structured, moderate prep, moderate interaction required

**Publisher:** AGS

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**Algebra  
Grade 7\*-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

\*7<sup>th</sup> grade Counselor approval required

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## **Algebra**

### **Grade 7\*-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

\*7<sup>th</sup> grade Counselor approval required

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

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### 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.

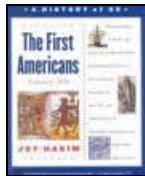
**Format:** traditional textbook with reproduced Study Workbook; audio versions of the textbook are available for ESL students or students with reading difficulties.

**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

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### (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

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### (R) Prime Social Studies

**Gr. 6-8**

**Ancient Civilizations (6)**

**World Cultures (7)**

**American History (8)**

Your child will cover grade-level standards in this collection of high interest, easy readability books. These books help develop student's ability to analyze, interpret, and make connections between current and historical events.

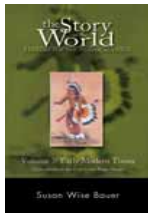
**Format:** multi-volume set of non-consumable readers

**Learning Style:** dependent or independent

**Teaching Style:** structured or flexible, moderate prep

**Publisher:** Benchmark Education

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**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, but may be used with older students with additional writing assignments and assessments. 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

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## SCIENCE

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### **Science Voyages**

**Gr. 6-8**

**Earth Science**

**Life 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

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### **(R)Science Explorer Series**

**Gr. 6-8**

**Earth Science**

**Life 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