Office of Instruction Buffalo Public Schools

Grade Level Expectations

GRADE 7

New York State learning standards outline what a student should know and be able to do by the end of the grade level or band. There are also additional skills that a well-rounded student should possess. Listed below are examples of Buffalo Public Schools' academic expectations for seventh grade students. These should be viewed holistically and are not meant to determine promotion or retention; a student may demonstrate or be on track for proficiency without having mastered every skill. Teachers intervene as appropriate to support skills development.

READING

- Provide relevant and specific details from texts to support answers, inferences
- Identify theme & main ideas, and how structure contributes to development
- Analyze how elements of plot and individuals, events, & ideas are developed
- Analyze the author's purpose as well as character's point of view in a text

WRITING & LANGUAGE

- Produce both on-demand and process writing in narrative, informational, argument, and research forms, using transitional words and phrases
- Use appropriate strategies to analyze text, take notes, and outline
- Produce writing with appropriate development, organization, and style

VOCABULARY

- Use context clues and knowledge of common Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes to determine word meaning
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meaning
- Acquire and use grade-appropriate general academic and content area words

LISTENING & SPEAKING

- Engage effectively in one-on-one and group discussions with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly

MATH

GRADE LEVEL FLUENCIES (Ex: Solve $px + q = r$, $p(x + q) = r$) where p, q,r are rational numbers

RATIOS & PROPORTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve problems and mathematical problems

THE NUMBER SYSTEM

- Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers

EXPRESSIONS & EQUATIONS

- Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions
- Solve real life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions equations and inequalities

GEOMETRY

- Draw, construct, describe geometrical figures and describe relationships between them
- Solve real life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, volume

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY

Grade 7 Mathematics Screening Measure

Short, computer adaptive diagnostic assessment that screens students across four domains:

- Algebra and Algebraic Thinking
- Measurement and Data
- Number and Operations
- Geometry

Grade 7 students take periodic assessments in mathematics, English language arts, science and social studies to measure their progress toward standards.

Students in grade 7 use a computer based adaptive diagnostic that assesses vocabulary and comprehension.

Grade 7 students also take State Assessments in Mathematics and English Language Arts.

GRADE 7

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Set aside a designated homework space. Your student should do school work each night, even if nothing is due right away. Students can review notes taken during class or read a novel or textbook.

Ensure your student has a system for recording dates that assignments are due. Help students map out due dates for each part of a project (e.g., bibliography, research, draft, revisions).

Designate quiet time every day for silent reading. Ask students questions about the book they have chosen. Read the book yourself to so you can talk about it together.

Encourage students to select informational books about science, history, art, music, & famous people. Building background knowledge is important for comprehension.

Expect students to write daily. Encourage them to use the strategies they learn in school. Writing about what they have read improves comprehension.

Ask your student to solve basic math mentally; expect a quick verbal response. Practice multiplication tables if answers are not automatic.

Involve your student in tasks at home that require math like cooking.

SCIENCE

- Understand and apply concepts, principles, theories relating to chemistry, physics and Earth science
- Recognize the historical development of the ideas in science: scientific method; force and motion; energy; simple machines; electricity and magnetism; waves –sound, light, and the electromagnetic spectrum; energy resources; chemistry; multiple topics in Earth and space science
- Use scientific equipment to take measurements, using standard metric units
- Recognize that objects have properties that can be observed, described, and/or measured (e.g., states of matter, density, temperature, volume, etc.)
- Use scientific inquiry to demonstrate understanding of the scientific process and concepts by making observations and testing explanations, analyze using conventional & invented methods to provide insight into different phenomena

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Examine the development of the first human settlements and the culture of Native American societies across North America
- Analyze economic, social and geographic factors affecting life in colonial America
- Analyze causes of the Revolutionary War, the War itself, and NYS' role in the War
- Understand that the Constitution is the foundation of government and the rights of citizens and is a living document that responds to political and social change
- Analyze how westward expansion brought opportunity to some but harmed others
- Examine the causes of 19th Century reform movements and NYS' role in reform
- Evaluate causes and outcomes of the Civil War

ART

- Use Elements/Principles of Art and Design to communicate meaning and ideas
- Use various materials, such as digital technology, that promote creative intent
- Analyze, discuss, interpret art, and identify artist inferences in art disciplines
- Research & discuss a variety of artworks from diverse cultures throughout time

MUSIC

- Identify a variety of musical elements including I-IV-vi-V-I chord
- Demonstrate advanced vocal/instrumental performance techniques progressions, treble and bass notations, major scales and key signatures
- Demonstrate knowledge of music periods: Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque
- Identify opera's main components (e.g., composer, librettist, costumes, etc.)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Demonstrate competency in varied motor and specialized manipulative skills
- Apply tactical concepts in physical activity
- Demonstrate safe, responsible, personal & social behavior

HOME & CAREER SKILLS

- Demonstrate management of consumer resources, clothing, age-appropriate finances, human development, interpersonal relationships, personal environments and nutrition/wellness through hands-on, practical application
- Identify age-appropriate connections to the workplace by researching and exploring careers and their connection to the community

INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY

- Demonstrate problem solving using technology, management of technological resources, and the effects of technology on everyday life through practical application
- Research and explore careers related to the technological world around
- Apply core skills and concepts to complete technological tasks effectively