



Eighth Grade Student Profile

Every day our world becomes more complex and demanding. To succeed beyond high school, students must be better prepared than at any time in the history of our state. Our expectations for our students and our schools are higher than they have ever been.

To meet these expectations, the State Board of Education has adopted a curriculum for all Texas schools – the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills identify what Texas students should know and be able to do at every grade and in every course in the foundation and enrichment areas as they move successfully through our public schools.

The following information summarizes the TEKS at your child's grade level in the four foundation areas of English Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

If you would like to see all of the TEKS that your child will learn, ask a teacher or principal to show you a copy; or order the TEKS from the Texas Education Agency; or, see <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/resources/curric.html>.

LANGUAGE ARTS

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Children in Medina Valley ISD will be prepared to master standards necessary to be successful in the next grade level. By the end of the school year, a Medina Valley Eighth Grader will:

READING COMPONENT.

- Read at or above grade level
- identify word meaning using strategies
- identify words across curricular content areas
- monitor, adjust and modify own reading and purpose
- use own knowledge of skills and experiences to comprehend
- analyze characteristics of various types of texts (genres)
- have a basic understanding of culturally diverse texts
- read silently with increasing ease for longer periods of time

WRITING COMPONENT.

- Composes and edits texts applying the conventions of standard grammar and usage (capitalization, punctuation, handwriting, penmanship and spelling) to communicate clearly and effectively
- evaluates texts of self and others for a variety of purposes

LISTENING AND SPEAKING COMPONENT.

- Listens actively to gain knowledge, and analyze and evaluate messages, and for enjoyment
- prepares, organizes and presents oral messages
- evaluate and critiques oral presentations and performances

VIEWING AND REPRESENTATIONS.

- Interpret how author's/illustrator's style, elements, and media represent and extend meaning/purpose/message
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SCIENCE

Children in Medina Valley ISD will be prepared to master standards necessary to be successful in the next grade level. By the end of the school year, a Medina Valley Eighth Grader will:

- gather and interpret data using safe, ethical practices and appropriate tools and technologies to increase their understanding of how the world works.
- Analyze information critically in order to distinguish fact from non-fact and evidence from conclusion.
- Solve, communicate, generate, and extend problems using an array of strategies, materials, and methods, working either independently or cooperatively
- identify patterns, explain relationships, and interpret data to solve problems and justify predictions
- connect and apply concepts to personal interests, career goals, local and global issues, and ethical dilemmas
- produce products that communicate an understanding of current issues and applications

SOCIAL STUDIES

Children in Medina Valley ISD will be prepared to master standards necessary to be successful in the next grade level. By the end of the school year, a Medina Valley Eighth Grader will:

HISTORY.

- Apply absolute and relative chronology; identify major eras, and dates in US history through 1877
- identify reasons for European exploration and colonization of North America
- describe and analyze documents related to and reasons for the growth of a representative government in the United States
- explain the policies, events, issues, and individuals related to the Revolutionary Era
- analyze foreign and domestic issues during the early years of the Republic
- trace the roots of westward expansion and its effects on national development
- analyze political, economic, and social factors that led to sectionalism and the Civil War
- explain the role of individuals, events, and issues of the civil War
- analyze reconstruction

GEOGRAPHY.

- Create/use geographic tools to collect, analyze and interpret data
- analyze the impact of human adaptations and modifications to the environment

ECONOMICS.

- Explain reasons for the differences in development across the US
- analyze how various economic forces brought about rapid industrialization and urbanization in the 19th century

GOVERNMENT.

- Identify historical documents and explain how they reflect American beliefs and principles
- summarize/evaluate the impact of landmark US Supreme Court cases

CITIZENSHIP.

- Identify the rights and responsibilities granted to US citizens
- explain the importance of freedom to express differing points of view in a democratic society

CULTURE.

- Identify diverse groups that settle in the United States; trace the contributions and conflicts these groups experienced
- describe/evaluate the major reform movements of the 19th Century
- trace the development of religious freedom, describe its influence on the American way of life
- describe developments in the arts and cultural activities that reflect the times in which they were created or convey universal themes

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY.

- Explain the ways technology and scientific innovation affect US economic development
- Describe how scientific discoveries and technological innovations influence daily life

SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS.

- Locate, identify and use primary and secondary sources; analyze, organize, and interpret information; identify points of view and frame of reference; identify bias; evaluate the validity of a source; use appropriate math skills to interpret social studies information
- use social studies terms correctly; use standard grammar; transfer information from one medium to another; communicate social studies information in oral, written and visual forms
- Use problem solving and decision-making processes

MATHEMATICS

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Children in Medina Valley ISD will be prepared to master standards necessary to be successful in the next grade level. By the end of the school year, a Medina Valley Eighth Grader will:

NUMBERS, OPERATIONS, AND QUANTITATIVE REASONING.

- Compare rational numbers
- select appropriate form of rational numbers to solve problems
- approximate irrational numbers
- use scientific notation
- select appropriate operations to solve problems
- add, subtract, divide and multiply rational numbers to solve problems
- proportional relationships (using multiplication by unit rate)
- evaluate solutions for reasonableness

PATTERNS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND ALGEBRAIC THINKING.

- Compare and contrast proportional and non-proportional relationships
- estimation involving percents and proportions
- different representations of data (table, graph, equation)

- use and algebraic expression to find any term in a sequence

GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL REASONING.

- Generate similar shapes using dilations
- graph dilations, reflections, and translations on coordinate plane
- draw solids from different perspectives
- use pictures or models to demonstrate Pythagorean theorem
- locate and name points on a coordinate plane

MEASUREMENT.

- Surface area of prisms and cylinders using models and nets
- use formulas to estimate and solve problems (surface area, volume)
- use the Pythagorean theorem
- use proportional relationships to find measures in similar shapes
- describe results of proportional changes of shapes (perimeter, area, volume)

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS.

- Probability of simple and compound events
- theoretical probabilities and experimental results
- select appropriate measures of central tendency
- draw conclusions from scatterplots
- construct circle graphs, bar graphs and histograms
- recognize misuse of data and graphical information

MATHEMATICAL PROCESSES AND TOOLS.

- Understand the problem, make and carry out a plan, and evaluate
- develop a variety of problem solving strategies
- make conjectures from patterns
- validate conclusions using mathematical properties and relationships