



## Middle School Core Choices 2017-2018

### ONLINE CURRICULUM

#### Time4Learning

##### **Gr. 6-7**

Time4Learning is an 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)

### READING

#### Elements of Literature

##### **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. Includes writing lessons as well as literature skills.

**Format:** traditional hardback text

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

**Learning Style:** traditional public school

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

**Publisher:** Holt Rinehart

#### Glencoe Literature: Reader's Choice **\*\*Enter the following access code: E116204650**

##### **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. Includes writing lessons 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

### **TLC Literature Units (No preview available)**

#### **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. Each reading guide has different comprehension activities based on the title of the book.

**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, low 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. It covers multiple genres throughout the book.

**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

### **The Complete Writer: Writing with Skill**

#### **Gr. 6-8**

This writing series combines time-tested classical techniques—the imitation and analysis of great writers—with original composition exercises in history, science, biography, and literature. It is designed as the perfect next step for students who have completed the Writing With Ease series or an equivalent composition curriculum. Skills covered: outlining, narrative writing, literary essays, researching, and more.

**Language Arts Strands Covered:** Writing

**Format:** Softback book and Teacher's edition

**Learning Style:** structured

**Teaching Style:** *Well Trained Mind*

**Publisher:** Peace Hill Press

## Inside Writing \*New Publisher and Format

### Gr. 6-8

**Basic Level Titles:** Personal Narratives, Cause-Effect Essays, Persuasive Essays; **Intermediate Level Titles:** Historical Narratives, Classification Essays, Promoting a Cause, Research Reports, Reading and Writing for Literature Assessments, Practice Test for Literature Assessments; **Advanced Level Titles:** Phase Autobiographies, Comparison-Contrast Essays, Advertising a Product, Application Letters \*Additional titles will be added as they become available\*

The *Inside Writing* units address basic types of writing, including narrative, persuasive, and explanatory. There are thirteen units per grade level span. 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. The design of this program is 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.

**Language Strands Covered:** Writing

**Format:** Reproducible Units with optional online access

**Learning Style:** structured, has suggestions for multiple learning styles

**Teaching Style:** structured

**Publisher:** Thoughtful Learning

## Write Source

### Gr. 6-8

*Write Source* reflects the latest research on writing and learning and provides everything students need to become better writers, thinkers, and learners, 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.

**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

## Time4Writing

### Gr. 6-8

**Basic Level Course:** Writing Mechanics; **Intermediate Level Courses:** Writing Enhancement, Writing Paragraphs, Writing Essays; **Advanced Level Courses:** Advanced Essay

Time4Writing offers a broad selection of 8-week online writing courses taught by certified teachers. Each course includes one-on-one instruction, prompt and personalized feedback, and weekly online lessons that can be accessed 24/7 from anywhere with a computer and an internet connection. Courses are designed to help students build skills and master the art of writing at all levels. Each grouping includes topics for basic, intermediate and advanced skill levels. \*Course must be completed in the assigned 8-week timeline.\* A second curriculum can be ordered later in the school year if needed.

**Language Strands Covered:** Writing, grammar

**Format:** online

**Learning Style:** visual

**Teaching Style:** structured;; low prep, moderate interaction

**Publisher:** www.time4learning.com

## Writing Strands, Level 3

### Gr. 6-8

*Writing Strands* presents exercises that were written to clearly walk students through the writing process. Most students take one year to complete a level. Each lesson includes: identifying the skill, listing

objectives of the lesson, presenting a model, pre-writing exercises, and 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

## **GRAMMAR**

### **Core Skills: Language Arts**

#### **Gr. 6-8**

Developed to improve grammar skills, 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. In addition to grammar concepts, capitalization, punctuation, sentence types, phrases/clauses and more are included. Ample practice worksheets are offered for each skill.

**Language Arts Strands Covered:** grammar

**Format:** Teacher's soft back book plus student workbook

**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 on every page. This program does not provide instruction, but rather review of skills.

**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 student 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 your student should begin. Once the placement level has been determined, your student 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

### 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 students 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. All analogy sections are compatible with the types of analogies currently 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**

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 to 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**

*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.

**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 mathematical 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/or challenging the students.

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

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

### Math in Focus

#### **Gr. 6-8**

This program provides an authentic Singapore math curriculum—highlighting problem solving as the focus of mathematical learning. This complete program teaches concepts using a concrete–pictorial–abstract learning progression to anchor learning in real-world, hands-on experiences. This curriculum is on the California Adoption List of materials for teaching the Common Core State Standards and is used in the Middle School onsite Math study groups.

**Format:** hardback text, full color format

**Learning Style:** traditional textbook format plus opportunities for reteaching and challenging the students.

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

**Publisher:** Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt

### Primary Mathematics

#### **Gr. 6**

Mathematical concepts are introduced in the opening pages and taught to mastery through specific learning tasks that allow for immediate assessment and consolidation. New mathematical concepts are introduced throughout a spiral progression that builds on concepts already taught and mastered.

**Format:** textbook format with consumable workbook components

**Learning Style:** All learning styles are addressed

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

**Publisher:** Singapore Math

## Dimensions Mathematics

### **Gr. 7-8**

The emphasis of this series is on empowering the students to learn mathematics effectively and independently. Depending on the topics covered, different approaches are adopted for the presentation of concepts to facilitate easy understanding by students to internalize concepts and instill in them an interest to explore the topics further. Each book includes appropriate examples, class activities and diagrams to understand the concepts and apply them. This program is aligned to Common Core Standards in Mathematics for grades 7 and 8.

**Format:** textbook format with consumable workbook components

**Learning Style:** All learning styles are addressed

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

**Publisher:** Singapore Math

## Saxon Math

### **Gr. 6-8**

#### ***Math 76***

#### ***Math 87***

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.

This program includes 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; comes with complete solutions manuals and test booklets

**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

## **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. This program is aligned to grade level California Content Standards in History-Social Science.

**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:** Houghton-Mifflin

## Discovering Our Past

### **Gr. 6-8**

Employs a content-rich, relevant narrative to provide an integrated approach to skills development and reading support. This program includes Document-Based Question debates, primary sources, and world literature activities and connections to provide a well-rounded Social Studies program aligned to grade level California Content Standards in History-Social Science with connections to the California Common Core Standards. This program is used in the middle school onsite Social Studies study groups.

**Format:** traditional textbook with optional online support; 6th and 7th grade standards are covered in one

book

**Learning Style:** traditional textbook format; online option allows text to be read aloud

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

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill

## [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 cover at least volumes three through eight. Topics include "From Colonies to Country," "The New Nation," "Liberty for All?," "War, Terrible War," "Reconstructing America," and "An Age of Extremes." This program is aligned to grade level California Content Standards in History-Social Science.

**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

## [Prime Social Studies](#)

**Gr. 6-8**

**Ancient Civilizations (6)**

**World Cultures (7)**

**American History (8)**

Your child will cover grade-level California Content Standards in History-Social Science 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. This program is good for students who struggle with reading.

**Format:** multi-volume set of non-consumable readers with reproducible student and teacher pages

**Learning Style:** dependent or independent

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

**Publisher:** Benchmark Education

## [The Story of the World](#)

**Gr. 6-8**

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

**Volume 2: The Middle Ages (400 – 1600) Grade 6**

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

**Volume 4: The Modern Age (1850-1994) Grade 7**

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 four 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**

**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.) are available. This program is aligned to grade level California Content Standards in Science.

**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

### 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 5-6 books. This series provides a great alternative to a traditional textbook. This program has a balance of content and hands-on science inquiry. Worksheets and assessments are also available. This program is aligned to grade level California Content Standards in Science.

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

**Learning Style:** multi-sensory

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

**Publisher:** Prentice Hall