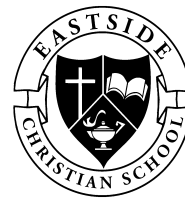


# ECS Curriculum Guide



## Middle School Overview

**Classroom Structure:** 7 class periods of 45 – 55 minutes daily  
(Bible, Language, History, Math, Science + 2 Elective/Exploration classes)

**Student/Teacher Ratio:** \*20:1 or less on average  
\*Middle school core classes typically range from 12 to 25 students. Language Arts and Mathematics are given priority status for comparatively smaller class sizes. Each middle school teacher utilizes an allocation of instructional assistant time to further enhance the programming.

**School Day** 8:45 am – 3:15 pm  
Lunch = 35 minutes

### **BIBLE and CHAPEL**

### **Middle School**

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Text: *To the Ends of the Earth***

This text provides an in-depth study of The Books of Acts for middle/junior high school students. Developed to engage students with the biblical text while directing them toward personal application of the command to take the gospel "to the ends of the earth." Contains helpful instructional aids and answers for student exercises. Students will end the course with a greater knowledge of and appreciation for the exciting birth and early years of the church.

#### **7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Text: *Preparing for a Life of Ministry***

Seventh and eighth grade students will learn the basic principles and tools of inductive Bible study, and become equipped in basic apologetics through addressing the most common issues/questions brought against the Bible and the Christian faith. Students will learn about their own spiritual gifts and how God desires to use them in ministering to others while experiencing the joy of service. An emphasis of the class will be discussion, projects, and activities centered on preparing to live actively for Jesus Christ.

Chapel program includes weekly worship, exposure to Christian beliefs and a focus on monthly character traits. Monthly participation in our DEEP program provides additional understanding of the character traits and a wonderful multi-age team building experience. Seventh and Eight grade students serve as Deep Group Leaders, providing instruction to their multi-age group.

Middle School Students perform required service hours. Students also participate in team building retreats, incentive parties and annual mission trips.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Middle School

Middle School teachers use the Houghton Mifflin Language Program.

Additional Materials include:

- Prentice Hall Literature Anthologies (Bronze and Silver Editions)
- Wordly Wise Vocabulary Workbooks
- Great Source Reader Handbooks

### Reading/Spelling/Vocabulary

- Oral Reading Fluency
- Weekly Spelling List-Test
- Vocabulary Words-Definitions
- Accelerated Reader Quizzes
- Poetry

### Writing

- Guided Creative Writing
- Writing Journals
- Short Stories & Letters
- Persuasive and Narrative Essays

### Language/Grammar

- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Suffixes, Prefixes & Abbreviations
- Singular-Plural
- Complete Sentences
- Word Usage Rules
- Alphabetizing
- Dictionary Skills

## MATH

Middle School

**Houghton-Mifflin Math 6:**

- Unit 1: Whole Numbers, Decimals, and Algebra
- Unit 2: Fractions and Decimals
- Unit 3: Measurement/Data and Graphing
- Unit 4: Integers and Algebra
- Unit 5: Geometry
- Unit 6: Ratio, Proportion, Percent, and Probability
- Unit 7: Geometry and Measurement
- Unit 8: Rational Numbers and Algebra

**Saxon Algebra ½** covers all topics normally taught in prealgebra, as well as additional topics from geometry and discrete mathematics (used in engineering and computer sciences). With Algebra ½, students can deepen their understanding of prealgebraic topics. Algebra ½ includes: instruction and enrichment on such topics as compressions, approximating roots, polynomials, advanced graphing, basic trigonometry, and more.

**Saxon Algebra 1** covers all topics in a first-year algebra course, from proofs, statistics and probability to algebra-based real-world problems. With Algebra 1, students begin developing the more complex and understanding required for advanced mathematics.

## SCIENCE

Middle School

Middle School utilizes the *Christian Schools International Science Curriculum* hardcover student textbook series:

- A biblical perspective on the study and care of God's world.
- Scientific information on each lesson topic.
- Photographs and diagrams to clarify unfamiliar or complicated topics.
- A wide range of experiments, activities, and sidebars.
- Review questions that assess student understanding of the material.
- Alignment with National Science Foundation Standards

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Earth Science:** Geology, The Dynamic Earth, Water and Water Systems, Meteorology, The Environment, and Astronomy.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science:** Life, Viruses, Bacteria, Protoctists, and Fungi, Plants, Animals, The Human Body, Genetics and Heredity, and Ecology.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science:** Matter, Types of Substances, Interactions of Matter, Matter in Motion, Energy at Work, and Electricity and Magnetism.

## HISTORY

Middle School

### *6<sup>th</sup> - New World History and Geography*

This exciting text presents the history and geography of North and South America from a Christian perspective, including both the native American and European heritage of the New World. It follows an organized, regional progression as it leads students on a tour of the western hemisphere. This text contains a world atlas with physical and political maps.

### *7<sup>th</sup> - History of the World*

History of the World leads students on a journey through time from Creation to the late twentieth century. The Christian perspective is the thread that connects the past to the present in this fascinating narrative of world history, teaching students to recognize the hand of God in human events. Full-color paintings, lithographs, and photos enhance the text. Colorful maps provide students with a geographic setting for historical events; time lines help them place events in the chronology of world history.

### *8<sup>th</sup> - America: Land I Love*

Land I Love presents the history of America from the 1490s to the present with special emphasis on the personalities and events that shaped the American character. A variety of illustrations, maps, and photographs invite students to explore the past as they read this fascinating narrative account of U.S. history. Through the story of America's rise to greatness, students will learn to recognize the hand of God in history and to appreciate the influence of Christianity in government, economics, and society.