

Lake Gibson Middle School

8th Grade Course Descriptions

Agriculture Instruction in plant science, animal science, soil science, agricultural mechanics, natural resources and conservation, communication and employability skills.

Agricultural Science/High School Credit (pre-requisite) The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills related to the area of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. The content includes but is not limited to instruction in plant science, animal science, soil science, agricultural mechanics, natural resources and conservation, communication and employability skills.

Art 1 This course is designed to offer students an introduction into many art techniques, and materials. In this year long course, students will expand on their artistic talents. Students will begin the year with learning basic drawing and composition skills. They will then experiment with different media, and techniques, to create unique works of art. Students will learn how to shade, how to color by layering colored pencil, how to show depth in their art, and so much more. Then students will use their developing drawing skills to expand into paint and sculpture techniques. Students will end the year by building 3D figures with wire and paper Mache. (\$10 lab fee)

Art 2: Advanced / High School Credit (pre-requisite) This course is one of the select number of 8th grade visual arts classes in Polk County to be offered for high school credit. Students are chosen for this course based on their achievements in the art 1 course. Students will use what they learned in 7th grade to create bigger and better 8th grade projects. Students taking this course have an option to audition for high school credit. All students will work on developing portrait skills, while experimenting with new forms of media. Students will make spray paint, cardboard, and carving projects just to name a few. Their work is at a high school level, and is entered in competitions county and state wide. (\$20 lab fee)

AVID Students develop organizational and study skills, learn strategies to enhance their academic work in all classes, practice critical thinking, and increase confidence in their academic abilities. Students participate in motivational activities that introduce them to various colleges and careers.

Beginning Band Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, music literacy, and musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of band literature. Students work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day.

Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band (prerequisite, teacher approval)

Beginning Chorus Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day.

Honors Chorus (prerequisite, teacher approval)

Beginning Orchestra Students who have little, or no experience on violin, viola, cello, or bass, explore high-quality music literature written for string orchestra. Study includes performance skills, music literacy, and aesthetic awareness. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Advanced Orchestra (prerequisite, teacher approval)

Beginning Guitar Students with little or no experience develop basic guitar skills and knowledge, including simple and full-strum chords, strumming patterns, playing/singing simple melodies, parts of the guitar, and ensemble skills. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Bio-Tech This hands-on bio-medical science program teaches students lab techniques and procedures. The course will focus on integration of biotechnological concepts and applied laboratory investigations. Students must score a level 3 or higher on the FSA ELA assessment 17-18 to be eligible for this course. (\$ 15 lab fee)

Computer Applications in Business 1 and 2 The content includes instruction in intermediate keyboarding, word processing, electronic presentation, computer hardware, introductory spreadsheet, and soft skills for business applications.

Computer Applications in Business 3/4 (pre-requisite is Computer Applications 1/2)

The content includes instruction in advanced spreadsheet, intermediate digital design, introductory database, introductory web design, and soft skills for business applications. These competencies provide the skills necessary to ensure increased productivity and efficient utilization of equipment.

Culinary Arts 1 /High School Credit (pre-requisite is 7th grade Hospitality & Culinary Careers)

This course covers the history of the food service industry and careers in that industry. Also covered are safety in the workplace; employability skills; leadership/teamwork skills; care and use of commercial culinary equipment; basic food science; basic nutrition; and following recipes in food preparation labs. Students will test for a SafeStaff certification issued by the state of Florida. Students will also have the opportunity to enter culinary competitions. (\$40 course fee)

Digital Media Fundamentals/ High School Credit (pre-requisite is 7th grade Video) This production team is responsible for producing advanced daily news programs for “The Shark Zone.” Students are responsible for developing show ideas, writing scripts, creating graphics, operating cameras and editing shows, stories and segments. Students produce competition videos for the Polk County Video Awards. Students work on Apple computers and use the programs Final Cut Pro, Motion and Garageband. Students have the opportunity to certify in Premiere Pro. This coursework prepares students for employment in the video production industry. This course may require students to participate in activities beyond the school day. (\$10 lab fee)

Digital Photography (application required) Students apply to be part of this award winning year-long introductory photography course. In this course, students will be outside the classroom, exploring campus while doing hands on photography assignments. They will have to be comfortable being both in front of, and behind the camera. They learn how to take good photos, instead making one with editing programs. They will work together on capturing the perfect photo. The student work produced in this program is continuously recognized with awards and distinctions. (\$25 lab fee)

Health & Medical Skills High School Credit (pre-requisite is Medical Skills) The medical field is among the fastest growing industries today. Whether your career goal is to work in a hospital, emergency medicine, or in allied health, this track will begin to teach you the skills needed to get started. Through class work and hands-on experience, students gain background knowledge in anatomy, medical terminology, and disease processes, as well as learn skills like taking vital signs, providing patient care and strapping a patient to a backboard. (\$10 lab fee)

Power Students will explore concepts related to the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. This includes studying the resources, people and technology required to design, build and maintain these systems. Topics include: traditional and alternative energy sources, magnetism and electricity, motors and generators, planning, design and function of a power plant along with information on related careers. Activities include online research, interactive labs and hands-on engineering / construction projects. (\$5 lab fee)

Spanish 1 /High School Credit Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. Students must score a level 3 or higher on the FSA ELA assessment 17-18 to be eligible for this course.

Video (application required) Lake Gibson Middle School’s award-winning Video Production Team is responsible for producing a daily news program, “The Shark Zone.” Students are responsible for developing show ideas, writing scripts, creating graphics, operating cameras and editing shows, stories and segments. Students work on Apple computers and use the programs Final Cut Pro, Motion and Garageband. This course may require students to participate in activities beyond the school day. (\$10 lab fee)

Yearbook (application required) The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop basic skills in the production of print media. Hands-on activities are integral to this course. This course may require students to participate in activities beyond the school day.