

Darlington Community School's Parents' Guide to Seventh Grade

Traits Exhibited by Many Twelve- to Fifteen-Year Olds

All children develop differently, but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Sixth, Seventh or Eighth Grades.

- Have a strong drive for conformity with own age group
- Have intense feelings and emotions
- Are influenced greatly by popular adults and teenage idols
- Have rapidly changing interests and ambitions
- Have a long interest span and increasing capacity for self-discipline
- Prefer competition with outside groups over competition with friends
- Have an idealism about the world at large
- Have concern with their personal appearance, self-consciousness and inhibition
- May begin to mature physically
- Boys and girls can work together on projects better than they can socialize

This year your child will learn to:

Art

- Use a variety of materials purposefully and safely
- Understand color, texture, shape, balance, mood, composition, and line as elements of art
- Understand and apply mathematical principles to art (proportion, perspective, scale, geometry, pattern, repetition, measurement)
- Create art from different points of view
- Express self through art media
- Reflect on works of art in the world today and in history

Language Arts

- Use oral and written language to convey a message appropriate to a specific situation
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Analyze text in terms of character, plot, setting, conflict
- Make predictions about a variety of texts
- Read books for information and enjoyment (Freak the Mighty, Among the Hidden, A Christmas Carol)
- Analyze advertisements and other media presentations
- Read a variety of genre
- Write an science informational report
- Write complete sentences and paragraphs
- Write stories, personal thoughts, letters, poetry or reactions to reading
- Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
- Know the uses of punctuation
- Apply knowledge of parts of speech, subject-verb agreement, and verb tense
- Recognize that words may have different contextual meanings
- Present oral reports and speeches
- Understand the importance of word choice in conveying a message and relating to an audience
- Develop note-taking skills
- Spell most words correctly
- Use writing process to plan and create written work including a short story and research paper
- Increase written and spoken vocabulary
- Use computers to organize and communicate information

Mathematics

- Use more problem-solving strategies
- Estimate realistic solutions to problems
- Understand properties of numbers to allow more ways to solve problems (commutative, associative, distributive)
- Explain mathematical processes or reasoning orally and in writing
- Organize, present, and understand data
- Make graphs and tables
- Use statistical measures of mean, mode, median, range
- Recognize misleading statistics
- Use algebra symbols and equations
- Understand prime numbers
- Understand scientific notation and square root
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals and fractions
- Understand and use geometric formulas for 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional objects

- Understand and use geometric formulas for 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional objects
- Use tools to create geometric shapes and angles
- Estimate measurements
- Understand and convert basic units of measurement
- Use and understand ratios, proportions, and percents
- Understand positive and negative integers
- Locate a point on a grid using ordered pairs
- Understand probability or chance
- Learn and apply economics concepts (inventory, profit, overhead)

Choral Music

- Sing with proper intonation and breath control
- Identify forms of music
- Sight read simple melodies using note names and solfege
- Write simple melodies
- Apply basic music symbols
- Listen respectfully to others' performances
- Discuss performances using music vocabulary
- Play accompaniments on classroom instruments
- Work for good group singing
- Understand the cultural background of selected songs
- Understand how music contributes to culture today and in history

Instrumental Music

- Demonstrate intermediate instrumental technique
- Use proper breath control
- Read, notate and identify standard notation symbols
- Sight read level 2 melodies in bass or treble clefs
- Play different musical styles
- Compose music using different note values
- Identify and evaluate different styles of music
- Evaluate group and individual performances
- Demonstrate proper audience and performance etiquette

Physical Education/Health

- Use a variety of basic motor movements in flag football, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, speedball, weight-training, challenge team-building, and badminton
- Apply rules of flag football, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, speedball, weight-training, challenge team-building, and badminton
- Demonstrate eye-hand coordination
- Understand and display sportsmanship
- Use feedback to improve performance
- Manage personal health, wellness, and fitness
- Use decision-making skills for personal and family-related health
- Read and analyze the validity of health information, products, and services
- Compare costs and validity of health products
- Describe situations requiring professional health services
- Analyze media messages for validity and accuracy
- Understand the advancements of technology in family and health areas
- Develop and implement a personal health plan
- Demonstrate healthy ways to express needs, wants, and feelings
- Analyze concepts of conflicts/consequences of drug use
- Understand safety and first aid procedures
- Be able to set goals
- Understand each system of the body
- Learn about health careers
- Understand the social contributions of physical activity (respect, cooperation, teamwork)
- Demonstrate aerobic conditioning
- Engage in activities that develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance
- Participate in the Presidential Fitness testing program
- Apply safety and warm-up procedures

Science

- Learn how scientific knowledge is always changing
- Learn to use the metric system for measurement and lab data collection
- Learn to plan and conduct science experiments and communicate results through tables and graphs
- Learn about careers in science
- Learn how technology is used in daily life and in people's careers
- Learn about famous scientists
- Understand the use of keys to classify organisms
- Understand cellular structure of prokaryotes, plants, and animals

- Understand photosynthesis
- Understand animal physiology
- Understand heredity and genetics
- Understand theories of evolution including adaptation and natural selection
- Understand the interrelations within and between ecosystems

Social Studies

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Use latitude and longitude to find places on maps and globes
- Identify directions on a map
- Use maps and globes to locate settings of stories or discussions
- Identify all 50 states and capitals and understand the topographical differences across the US
- Use an atlas to find geographical and demographic information
- Understand stereotyping, prejudice, and bias
- Understand the influence of the media on public knowledge and opinion
- Learn about political science: freedom, democracy, equality, rules and regulations, responsibility, and justice
- Understand the voting process, majority rule, and minority rights
- Understand the separation of powers at all levels
- Understand the two party system
- Learn about the global economy and interdependence
- Understand business risks/profits
- Understand economic concepts: supply/demand, production, consumption, labor/wages, capital, inflation/deflation, public/private goods and services
- Know ways that people solve common problems by cooperating and working in groups
- Learn about Africa and South America, incorporating map skills, various countries, economies, religions, and people

Information and Technology

- Use software to organize thoughts for written work
- Keyboard accurately at 25-30 wpm
- Use scanner, digital camera, and other digital equipment
- Produce word processing document, spreadsheets, databases, PowerPoint, and drawing products
- Use various web browser to modify and focus web searches
- Search using the internet, encyclopedia and other reference materials
- Use data from weathernet site
- Create bookmarks to find internet sites
- Transfer graphics, pictures, and video clips into student-made documents
- Utilize text editing and formatting pull-down menus
- Incorporate graphics or pictures into a word processing document
- Understand that information is organized in the library in a logical manner
- Choose appropriate library materials
- Care properly for library materials and equipment
- Learn to assess one's own progress and quality of work
- Work with a group to complete a project

Technology Education

- Learn proper and safe use of woodworking tools
- Create a wood project from a pattern
- Apply accurate measuring skills
- Become familiar with CAD (Computer Aided Design)
- Complete Architecture Design us CAD
- Work effectively as a group
- Exhibit good decision-making skills
- Understand that technology is constantly changing
- Understand that technology is everywhere
- Review computer application skills

Healthy Living

- Understand nutritional guidelines
- Work safely and cooperatively
- Apply accurate measuring skills
- Follow sequential written and oral directions
- Work cooperatively in a group
- Self-assess products and process
- Apply math to home and consumer situations
- Identify careers in food service and preparation

Self-Directed Learning

- Follow school and classroom rules
- Use self-control

- Show respect for others
- Work to solve own problems
- Work cooperatively with others
- Work independently to a greater degree as the school year progresses
- Use time productively
- Make plans and organize before working
- Work quietly when directed
- Complete work in a timely manner
- Evaluate own work

[BACK TO TOP](#)

© 2007 Darlington Community Schools