

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH COURSES



* Selecting this option means that your child will **SKIP** 6th grade math **and** choose **COMPACTED PACING** through middle school. Students are responsible for mastery of CC6 math skills and concepts.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

- MOST STUDENTS WILL BEGIN MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH IN CC 6.** Unless you are considering skipping this course, **select the CC 6 option** on your child's math placement form and return it to your child's fifth grade teacher. You will have the opportunity to decide between **Common Core Grade Level Pacing** vs. **Compacted Pacing** at the end of 6th grade.

IS MY CHILD READY FOR CC 7/8? The only decision to be made in the spring of 5th grade is considering whether your child can truly demonstrate sufficient mastery of 6th grade Common Core math skills and concepts to indicate readiness to skip **CC 6** and begin middle school in **CC 7/8**. Selecting this option means that your child will **SKIP** 6th grade math and choose **COMPACTED PACING** through middle school

MASTERY OF 6TH GRADE COMMON CORE CONTENT STANDARDS: Some students may be able to demonstrate sufficient mastery of **CC 6** skills and concepts to begin middle school in **CC 7/8**. To evaluate whether your student may be ready to skip **CC 6**, please visit <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/core/math/cc6masterytest.htm> and have your student take the online **Common Core 6 Math Mastery Assessment**. (A score of **80% or higher** would provide evidence of sufficient mastery.)

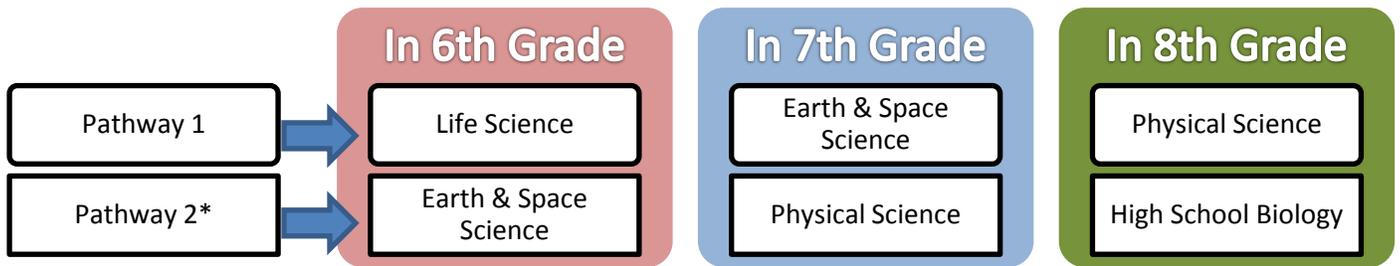
- STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICAL PRACTICE:** Common Core expects much more than just procedural skill and fluency. Students are expected to achieve deep conceptual understanding, to demonstrate critical thinking skills, to make connections, to persevere in problem-solving, to apply their learning to solving problems in real world contexts, to justify their reasoning, and to clearly communicate their math thinking. Read more about the *Standards for Mathematical Practice* at <http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Practice>.

COMMITMENT TO COMPACTED PACING: Be aware that students who skip **CC 6** will continue with **Compacted Pacing** and should be prepared for the increased rigor and vigorous pacing of this sequence. Students should be prepared to take 4 years of math in grades 9-12 in order to meet high school graduation requirements. Skipping content means your student will complete challenging math courses in high school. Please visit <https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/core/math/high> to review the high school math course flowchart.

- READINESS CRITERIA:** Families who wish to select this placement should ensure that their student meets the following Readiness Criteria:
 - A score of **80% or higher** on the online **Common Core 6 Math Mastery Assessment**.
 - A score of **2643 or higher** on the **4th grade SBA in Math**.

QUESTIONS? Please visit <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/core/math/Default.aspx>, talk to your child's middle school counselor or contact Kathryn Coffin, Secondary Math Specialist, at coffink@issaquah.wednet.edu or Dawn Wallace, Director of Teaching and Learning, at wallaced@issaquah.wednet.edu.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE COURSES



* Selecting this option means that your child will SKIP Life Science.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

- **MOST STUDENTS WILL BEGIN MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE IN LIFE SCIENCE.** Unless you are considering skipping this course, **select the Pathway 1 option** on your child's science placement form and return it to your child's fifth grade teacher.

IS MY CHILD READY FOR SCIENCE PATH TWO? The decision made in the spring of 5th grade is considering whether your child has maturity, motivation, and desire to accelerate in middle school science. Selecting this option means that your child will SKIP Life Science. This content will not be repeated. In addition, students should be prepared to take 4 years of science in grades 9-12 in order to meet high school graduation requirements. Skipping content means your student will complete challenging science courses in high school. Please visit <https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/core/science> to review the high school science course flowchart.

- **READING AT LEAST TWO GRADES ABOVE GRADE LEVEL STANDARD:** The Biology textbook used in 8th grade is written at a 10th grade reading level. For many students, this will be their first experience with an academic text. Being able to read for comprehension is important for students to participate in biology class. To evaluate whether your student may be ready to use the **Biology Textbook in 8th Grade**, please check your student's score on the **4th Grade SBA in Reading**.
- **MATH READINESS TO SUPPORT PATHWAYS IN HIGH SCHOOL:** When considering your child's science pathway, it is important to consider your child's math readiness. Due to the math requirements in high school science classes, selecting certain science pathways may necessitate adding a non-algebra-based (algebra-based sciences include chemistry and physics) science elective during freshman year or accelerating math in high school, if appropriate for your child. To evaluate whether your student may be prepared to take algebra-based science in 9th grade, please check your student's **4th grade SBA in Math** score.
- **LAB BEHAVIORS:** Students should consistently demonstrate maturity and cautious behaviors in lab situations where chemical use and safety is a concern. Impulsive behaviors will jeopardize a student's safety. Note: Lab skills are taught in Life Science. Students skipping Life Science will be expected to demonstrate appropriate lab behaviors in the Earth Space science classroom.
- **READINESS CRITERIA:** Families who wish to select this placement should ensure that their student meets the following Readiness Criteria:
 - A score of **2633 or higher** on the **4th Grade SBA in Reading**.
 - A score of **2643 or higher** on the **4th grade SBA in Math**.

QUESTIONS? Please visit <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/core/science>, talk to your child's middle school counselor, or contact Lena Jones, Secondary Science Specialist, at jonesl@issaquah.wednet.edu or Dawn Wallace, Director of Teaching and Learning, at wallaced@issaquah.wednet.edu.