



The first step into middle school is a spark of excitement, challenge, and growth. Catalyst 6th Grade is designed to welcome students into these transitional years by reinforcing what they've learned in Cornerstone while preparing them for the deeper studies ahead.

History

History of Florida

Students explore the unique story of Florida — from its earliest peoples and explorers to its role in America's development — connecting local history to the larger picture of God's providence over nations.

Science

Overview of All Science Structures

This year provides a comprehensive review of the major science structures studied in Cornerstone. Students will solidify their anchor pegs in biology, anatomy, earth science, chemistry, and physics to ensure a strong foundation for advanced study.

Logic

Anchors of the Faith

Students begin training in clear thinking and reasoning by exploring the core truths of the Christian faith. This course helps them learn to ask good questions, recognize sound arguments, and strengthen their biblical worldview.

English Grammar & Literature

Students take a deeper dive into grammar, diagramming, and sentence structure while weaving in a full literature strand that includes carefully chosen novels. These stories are selected to spark a love of reading and imagination, while grammar and composition skills give students the tools to communicate effectively.

Together, these courses provide 6th graders with the confidence, structure, and joy they need as they embark on their middle school journey.

Catalyst 7



Faith, and building confidence as students continue their climb toward high school readiness. In Catalyst 7th Grade, learning takes on a more challenging and independent rhythm while still rooted in rich discussions and biblical truth.

History

World Geography

Students dive deep into the world's cultures, religions, economies, physical features, and political systems. They develop advanced map-reading skills and broaden their global awareness, learning to see God's hand in the nations.

Science

Anatomy

This year provides a focused study on the human body, its systems, and their intricate design. Through labs, projects, and diagrams, students develop awe for God's handiwork and gain a solid grounding in biological science.

Logic

Apologetics & Critical Thinking

Using *It Couldn't Just Happen* and *The Fallacy Detective*, students explore alternative worldviews and theories, training their minds to recognize faulty reasoning and defend their faith with clarity and conviction.

Literature & Writing

The literature strand integrates literary terms and characteristics into the study of 11 novels across the year. Students not only enjoy rich stories but also analyze themes, structure, and style. Writing instruction is paired with literature, divided into two strands: Persuasive Writing (First Semester): Students learn to craft strong arguments and defend positions with evidence. Summary & Analysis (Second Semester): Students practice distilling texts into clear, concise summaries and develop skills for thoughtful literary analysis. Class discussions are rich and engaging, inspiring students to think deeply and find biblical parallels between the stories they read and the traits of biblical characters.

Public Speaking: Weekly Presentations

Each week, students prepare and deliver presentations on one of the subjects studied in class. These opportunities refine research and communication skills while helping students grow more confident in their own voice and opinions.

By the end of seventh grade, students have practiced persuasive writing, sharpened their worldview, expanded their global knowledge, and strengthened their ability to communicate with confidence.

Catalyst 8



Eighth grade is the capstone year of middle school, the final stretch before students begin their ascent into the last four years of the climb — Pinnacle. In Catalyst 8th Grade, studies become more intricate, discussions go deeper, and students are equipped to step into high school with confidence and faith.

History: World History I

Students explore the sweep of civilizations from Mesopotamia through the Hundred Years' War and the Black Death. This course provides a solid grounding in the early foundations of history while encouraging students to connect the past to present-day culture and biblical truth.

Science: Earth & Space Science

Students focus on the earth's structure, atmosphere, weather patterns, and the vastness of space. Labs and projects bring scientific principles to life while inspiring wonder at God's design of the universe.

Logic: Advanced Reasoning & Application

In the first semester, students work through The Thinking Toolbox, practicing real-world application of logical reasoning. In the second semester, they expand into courtroom logic — learning the structure of trials, analyzing a case, and preparing to argue it in a mock trial held at the courthouse with a live judge in partnership with another homeschool community. This experience not only develops critical thinking but also refines their skills in presentation, articulation, and persuasive delivery.

Literature & Writing

Literature study focuses on 10 novels, with an emphasis on literary devices, symbolism, and theme. Students are challenged to recognize and analyze deeper elements of writing while continuing to engage in rich class discussions. These conversations inspire them to draw biblical parallels between the characters studied and the heroes and struggles of Scripture.

Writing instruction builds on the foundations of 7th grade but goes deeper into persuasive writing, requiring students to craft well-supported arguments and refine their rhetorical style.

By the end of eighth grade, students have climbed high through the Catalyst years. They have mastered advanced writing, sharpened their ability to think critically, and learned to defend ideas with conviction. They now stand at the threshold of Pinnacle, ready to continue their ascent through the final four years of the Apex journey.