

DEMAREST MIDDLE
SCHOOL

**6TH GRADE
ACADEMIC
ENRICHMENT
PROGRAMS**

• 2019-2020 •

What is an AEP?

An Academic Enrichment program, or AEP, is a marking period based class that students have access to in their everyday schedule.

Throughout the course of the school year, students cycle through 8 AEPs, 2 per day, for 4 marking periods.

Teachers create these courses based on their content knowledge and interests. These courses are dynamic in that they change from year to year.

AEPs span a variety of topics, from science and technology, to the arts, to literacy and writing. Because of this, students are exposed to a wide variety of content that can inform their futures.

• Think Tank

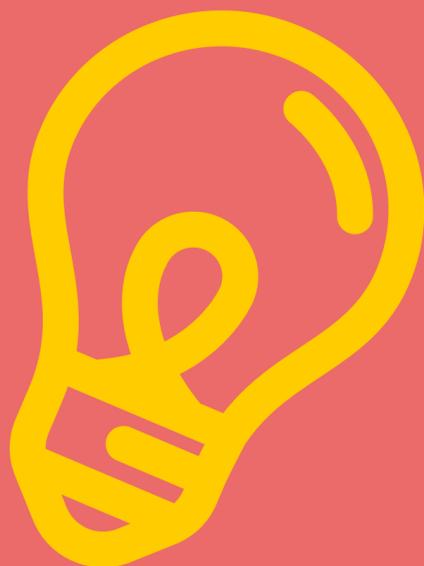
The students will be given the opportunity to use their thinking skills in order to make sense of situations, figure out puzzles, and be more aware of the world around them (thinking, reasoning, and analytical skills). This is a project-based course.

• Public Speaking II

The course provides an overview of public speaking and its importance as continuation of the 5th grade introductory course. Emphasis is placed on researching and delivering a quality speech. The role of speech in advertising is also explored.

• S.T.E.M.

S.T.E.M. is a class which explores real world problems through exploration, inquiry, and hands on problem solving. We research, brainstorm, build, test and redesign while using teamwork and perseverance to complete our projects.



- **Robotics**

STEM robotics is an introduction to robotics hardware and software construction and programming aligned with the New Jersey State Learning Science Engineering Standards.

- **Media**

Media class students get exposed to technology, video editing, and website-making. Podcast recording using microphones for better sound. It gives students the opportunity to work independently or as a group and learn new things from each other. In addition, students get to work on projects such as stop motion at their own pace and share their presentations with the class.

- **General Music**

Students will explore a variety of musical genres during this course. Additionally, they will learn the basics of playing the ukelele and reading sheet music.



• 6th Grade Genius Hour

Genius Hour is inspired by Google's 20% time where employees are permitted to use 20% of their working time to be creative and explore ideas that matter to them and which could potentially be incorporated into the Google World. This process has led to innovations like Gmail and Google Maps, just to name a few. Students will become immersed in a topic that not only means something to them but will also benefit others. They are able to work at their own pace and seek to be a changemaker.

• Visual Arts

Students will build upon artistic skills from previous years. There is a deeper focus on perspective, as well as projects that incorporate cross-curricular connections.

