

SEA 2010-2011

Just three years after ribbon-cutting, Seashore Middle Academy is an Exemplary campus for the second year in a row. Our rigorous college-preparatory curriculum demands the most out of every student on our campus. Expectations are even higher for SEA students, who are motivated to and capable of working beyond most of their peers.

The SEA program is not designed to give extra work to its participants; rather, the work reflects a higher level of critical thinking. For example, when working on a project assigned to every student, they will create a more in-depth product representing the topic of study in a given six weeks or unit. The product, which may be anything from a website or PowerPoint to a written piece or display board, will demonstrate a deeper understanding of the material.

SEA students may apply for and be accepted into the program in the following disciplines, and the guidelines for each discipline are as follows:

Language Arts

Every unit of study in language arts involves written work and a creative product as a culmination of study. SEA students will create a more in-depth product representing the topic of study in a given six weeks or unit.

In addition to the creation of more advanced products, SEA students' work will differ in the following areas:

- **Spelling** –
 - 5th grade: 5th graders in SEA will be expected to use spelling/vocabulary words in more complex sentences and thought, and use thesauruses regularly when synonyms and antonyms are required.
 - 6th – 8th grades: More than one spelling list is provided. SEA students will study the higher-level spelling words.
- **Vocabulary** In addition to assigned vocabulary words, SEA students will work through a unit in www.vocabtest.com every two weeks. The exercises take only a few minutes and expose your child to 20 SAT words per unit. Class time, when available, may be used for these exercises.
- **Reading** Each language arts student will read an independent novel each six weeks. SEA students will be expected to read a more challenging novel than the typical student. When reading this novel, a SEA student's reading log will show more in-depth responses to analytical questions posed by the instructor.

- **Writing** The writing of SEA students should show greater depth and complexity than that of the typical student.
- **Academic Competitions** SEA students will be expected to participate in the mock Ready Writing (5th-8th) and/or Editorial Writing (7th-8th) events, which are held on campus to determine which students will represent the school in the actual U.I.L writing events. While it is not required that every SEA student travel to the weekend U.I.L. meet in the spring, it is expected that SEA students will assist in preparation for academic competition among other schools.

Math

Math SEA students by definition are enrolled in a math course above grade level.

Science

SEA science students are expected to demonstrate a deeper understanding of the content being studied by the class and meet with instructor to discuss at a higher level. For example, SEA science students will be expected to critically think about contemporary science problems and offer creative solutions for these challenges. SEA Science students:

- Will be expected to participate in the preparations for academic competitions (U.I.L. and Science Olympiad)
- Should assist with extracurricular science activities such as “Science Night”
- Will be expected to have a greater involvement in community science projects (i.e., beach clean-up, recycling efforts).
- Fifth grade SEA Science students are expected to complete a science fair project.
- Following a class project, the SEA student may be asked to instruct the class on the material he or she has researched and/or share the product he or she has created.

Social Studies

- Products created by SEA students should show more in-depth research of primary sources in history.
- Sixth through eighth grade SEA students must participate in the history fair. Time is available in class to prepare for this competition.
- SEA students are expected to prepare for U.I.L. social studies events.

Enrichment SEA Trip

SEA students are encouraged to attend the SEA field trip, a visit to a collegiate campus that includes activities for middle-school and high-school students (ex. “Explore UT”). As the trip approaches, parents will receive information on travel arrangements, accommodations, etc. and will be asked to assist as chaperones as necessary.