

**Clarendon Hills Middle School**  
**Curriculum Descriptions**  
**Seventh Grade Field Trips 2019-20**

**Irons Oaks**

Irons Oaks is an outdoor classroom located in Homewood. The primary purpose for this field trip is for students to learn how to work constructively as a team with problems that might interfere with everyday life. The students are separated into small groups where they are given the opportunity as a team to work on problems in a safe environment. Each team works through a series of obstacles with each obstacle presented as a problem-solving exercise. The group uses problem-solving skills at each obstacle in order to promote communication, cooperation, leadership skills, and team-building.

**Science**

The trip to Great America incorporates a strong educational format in a recreational atmosphere. Using specially prepared educational material, our students will spend several days prior to the field trip working with the concepts that govern the physics of an amusement park. They will build devices that will allow them to measure, estimate, calculate, and apply what they learn in our classrooms as they perform experiments that involve the rides and attractions at Great America.

Our students will join students from all over the Chicago area to view and experience some very practical outcomes of applying the laws of physics correctly. The exploration will involve potential energy, kinetic energy, velocity, gravity and acceleration. Predictions will be made, and then first-hand evidence will be gathered and analyzed as the students twist, turn, climb slowly, then plummet safely on the various attractions. The trip will take place in *late May or early June* and will last from 8:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. Students will need to bring money to purchase food at the park for lunch.

**Language Arts**

Chicago Shakespeare Theater – Navy Pier – This Shakespeare performance in downtown Chicago supports and enriches classroom work in the Language Arts. The matinee performance is designed for middle level learners to experience an authentic Shakespeare production in the style of The Globe theater. Students view a classic Shakespearian drama with the unmatched power of a live performance. The performance concludes with a special question and answer session with the actors and directors at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater. The performance illuminates students' reading of classic literature and the parallels of their adaptations on the stage. Students will need to bring their own money for lunch on Navy Pier prior to the performance.