

LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERATURE

6th Grade

Literature

The students will:

- Analyze characters and their motives.
- Identify conflicts and how they are resolved.
- Justify personal interpretations of text.
- Analyze a text's content, purpose and style in terms of its intended audience.
- Compare comparisons of story with other context.
- Analyze content of non-fiction literature.
- Assemble a reading log.

Writing

The students will:

- Apply processes of writing to original writing pieces in a variety of genres.
- Apply features of effective writing to original writing pieces.
- Begin to self-assess strengths and needs for improvement in his or her writing processes and in original products.
- Apply feedback from a group of peers and teacher to the development of original writing pieces.
- Apply writing process and research skills to a report using a variety of resources.
- Generate ideas for writing.
- Develop a writing portfolio.

Communication

The students will:

- Comprehend connections between visual and verbal messages.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of a variety of visual media.
- Use original observations, questions and insights in clear, concise and convincing language when speaking.
- Apply audience feedback to the improvement of oral expression.
- Apply appropriate speaking strategies in a variety of oral presentations.
- Continue to develop ability to synthesize aural information in written form (outlining, note taking).

7th GRADE

Literature

The students will:

- Analyze roles of character, plot, setting and point-of-view in a given literary work.
- Analyze insights gleaned from various texts and use them to draw conclusions.
- Justify and support personal interpretations of text.
- Analyze the connections between literary works regarding character, events, and themes.
- Evaluate the accuracy of historical fiction with historical events.
- Synthesize data for research from a variety of sources, including print materials, technological resources, observations, interviews and audiovisual media.
- Analyze author's use of symbolism, figurative language, connotation and allusion in a given literary work.
- Assemble a reading log.

Writing

The students will:

- Evaluate selected works of fiction and non-fiction as models for writing.
- Apply the evaluations of peers and teacher to improve the content, style and form of a variety of writing pieces.
- Synthesize information from interviews, written sour.
- Develop a writing portfolio.

Communication

The students will:

- Give specific feedback to peers on form, content and effectiveness of their presentations.
- Assess the strengths and weaknesses of small and large group discussions.
- Synthesize aural information in written form (outlining, note taking).
- Interpret non-textual visual information.
- Analyze discrepancies between verbal and visual images in film and literature.
- Analyze different media sources (print and film) based on same literary work.
- Use clear, concise, organized language in large and small group discussions, maintaining eye contact.
- Apply proper strategies in conducting informational interviews.

8th GRADE

Literature

The students will:

- Understand text as a whole (comprehension).
- Analyze parts of the text (i.e. plot line), and linguistic nuances of text (author's style).
- Formulate opinions and questions.
- Interpret text.
- Evaluate the author's intent as presented in the text in light of one's personal ideas (theme).
- Differentiate between literary forms (genres).
- Assemble a reading log.

Writing

The students will:

- Generate ideas for writing.
- Analyze and use fiction and nonfiction as a model for writing.
- Compose a variety of writing pieces for a variety of purposes (narrative, informative, persuasive).
- Apply knowledge of language conventions appropriate to intent of original writing.
- Develop a writing portfolio.

Communication

The students will:

- Restate, interpret and respond to, and evaluate the clarity of aural / oral messages.
- Synthesize oral information in written form (outlining, note taking).
- Use clear, concise, organized language in speaking situations.
- Evaluate and adjust use of spoken language to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences for a variety of purposes.
- Interpret non- textual visual information.
- Construct non-textual media.