

7th Grade Language Arts Syllabus

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Course Description:

Seventh grade Language Arts is a combined course of reading and writing. In this class the two subjects are closely layered so that reading builds a better writer and one's writing builds a better reader. This course will explore learning strategies such as literature circles and Socratic seminars (lectures that encourage dialogue) in order to foster a greater understanding of literature, as well as improve reading skills and fluency to comprehension. Students will be familiar with and utilize on a regular basis, the Reading Strategies and the Six Traits of Writing. Language Arts will also expose students to a wide variety of genres and writing styles, in addition to providing ample opportunity to practice the revision process. Lastly, this class will be built on the foundation of quality, spanning from the simplest sentences to complex literary analyses.

Expectations of Students

Students are expected to report to class on time, prepared with appropriate supplies (paper, books, pen, and pencil). Students are expected to behave in a manner that is appropriate for the classroom. Students are expected to complete all homework, reading and study assignments as they are assigned.

Promise from Instructor

The instructor will report to class on time, prepared with all appropriate supplies. The teacher will treat all students with courtesy and respect. The teacher will be available for fifteen minutes after the last period of class M-Thurs to speak with students or parents. The teacher will return all emails or phone calls within 24 hours of receipt.

Goals:

To foster the integration of vocabulary, composition, and oral language skills

To incorporate proper grammatical usage and writing styles in the students writing

To explore a variety of literature genres while adapting reading strategies to improve comprehension

Resources:

Contact administration in reference to required text books and school supplies. School Supplies are listed on the school website.

Evaluation:

Students will receive weekly vocabulary quizzes, bi-weekly grammar exams, midterm and final exams. Students will be tested on all quarterly reading assignments. In addition, periodic short-term and long-term writing assignments will be assigned. A test will be given on the first day on the required summer reading novel.

Quarterly Reading:

Every nine weeks the students will be assigned a novel to read. The students will be tested on the novel at the end of the quarter.

Book Title	Author	
<u>Jazmin's Notebook</u>	Nikki Grimes	1 st quarter
<u>Taste of Blackberries</u>	Doris Buchanan	2 nd quarter
<u>Animal Farm</u>	George Orwell	3 rd quarter
<u>Warriors don't Cry</u>	Melba Patillo Beals	4 th quarter