

## Rationale

Language study cultivates the student's ability to communicate in multiple contexts through written, oral, and multi-media genres. Literary study develops the student's vocabulary as well as their written and oral communication abilities. Sixth Grade English Language Arts will foster critical reading and writing skills and encourage the student to make connections with literature and non-fiction.

## Course Description

The student in 6th Grade Language Arts will develop writing, speaking, and reading skills. The student will write on a regular basis, with an emphasis on fluency, and will develop academic practices and strategies, such as collegial discussion and evaluating text. He or she will develop comprehension and fluent reading strategies with literary and non-fiction texts and will respond to literature and other texts in class discussion, peer groups, and through writing as well as informal presentations.

## Course Objectives

1. The student will read, discuss, analyze, and apply literary devices to a minimum of three longer volumes of fictional work at an appropriate level of text complexity.
2. The student will read regularly in a variety of genres, including short fiction, long fiction, short non-fiction and informational text and poetry, averaging a minimum of 40 pages of reading per week at an appropriate level of text complexity.
3. The student will write informally on a weekly basis, analyzing and responding to texts.
4. The student will participate in informal discussions, presentations, peer feedback, or collaborative groups on a daily basis.
5. The student will plan and present formally a minimum of one time over the course of the year; the presentation may be collaborative or multi-media.
6. The student will write informally on a weekly basis, analyzing and responding to texts.
7. The student will develop sentence and paragraph writing skills, focusing on structure, variety and fluency, with at least three developed pieces per grading term.
8. The student will write a minimum of two polished, multi-paragraph pieces over the course of the year and will be introduced to a writing process that includes revision and editing for standard English usage; genres will include exposition, argumentation, and/or narrative writing.
9. The student will be introduced to a style guide to format essays and projects and to cite sources while avoiding plagiarism.
10. The student will participate in informal discussions, presentations, peer feedback, or collaborative groups on a daily basis.
11. The student will complete at least one polished research project incorporating credible sources and engage regularly in informal research.

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