# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English/Language Arts Syllabus 2018-2019

### **Instructor Information**

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\*While email is the preferred method of communication, teachers may also be contacted via the school phone. Please feel free to contact us by email or by calling the school to gain information and access to instructional materials.

## **Course Description:**

The sixth grade English/Language Arts course provides a balance of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills.

This year we will read and analyze a variety of texts covering a multitude of genres. These genres include but are not limited to:

- Freak the Mighty (Quarter One Novel)
- Biography (Quarter One-Book Report)
- *Maniac Magee* (Quarter Two Novel)
- Journey's Short Stories
- Poems
- Non-Fiction Texts (Quarter Four-Research Project)

This year the students will progress through the writing process by planning, revising, editing, and publishing specific types of writing. Our writing focus includes:

- Informative/Explanatory Essays (Quarter One-Book Report & Quarter Three)
- Argumentative Essays (Quarter Two)
- Narrative Essays (Quarter Three)
- Research Projects (Quarter Four)
- Journal Writing
- Timed Responses

Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will be another important focus area in our class.

Throughout the year, the students will work independently, in small groups, and in whole group settings. The students will also be expected to present information to their peers.

#### **Course Materials**

One Three-Ring Binder with

**Dividers One Composition** 

Notebook Homework Folder

Pencils

Paper

## **Course Schedule**

The standards for each quarter represent when the standard is introduced; however, please note, ELA standards are continually reviewed and used throughout the year.

## **Quarter One Standards**

- 6.L.CSE.1 Demonstrate the command of conventions of Standard English grammar and usage. 6.L.CSE.1c When reading and listening, explain the function of phrases and clauses.
- 6.L.CSE.1d When writing or speaking, use simple, compound, and complex sentences.
- 6.L.CSE.2 Demonstrate the command of conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. When reading or writing, explain the function of commas, parentheses, and dashes to set off parenthetical elements and use them correctly to do so.
- 6.L.VAU.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on 6th grade-level text by choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- 6.L.VAU.4a Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word or a phrase.
- 6.L.VAU.4b Use common grade-appropriate morphological elements as clues to the meaning of a word or a phrase.
- 6.L.VAU.4c Consult reference materials, both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or phrase.
- 6.L.VAU.4d Use etymological patterns in spelling as clues to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- 6.L.VAU.5 When reading, listening, writing, and speaking, explain the function of figurative language, word relationships, and connotation/denotation and use them correctly and effectively.
- 6.L.VAU.6 Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; develop vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
- 6.RL.KID.1 Analyze what a text says explicitly and draw logical inferences; cite textual evidence to support conclusions.

- 6.RL.KID.3 Describe how the plot of a story or drama unfolds, as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.
- 6.RL.CS.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.
- 6.RL.CS.6 Explain how an author establishes and conveys the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.
- 6.RL.IKI.7 Compare and contrast the written version of a story, drama, or poem to the experience of listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live production of a text.
- 6.RL.IKI.9 Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.
- 6.RL.RRTC.10 Read and comprehend a variety of literature throughout the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with a gradual release of scaffolding at the high end as needed.
- 6.RI.KID.1 Analyze what a text says explicitly and draw logical inferences; cite textual evidence to support conclusions.
- 6.RI.KID.3 Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and developed in a text.
- 6.RI.CS.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.
- 6.RI.CS.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in a text.
- 6.W.RBPK.9 Support interpretations, analyses, reflections, or research with evidence found in literature or informational texts, applying grade 6 standards for reading.
- 6.W.RW.10 Write routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- 6.SL.CC.1 Prepare for collaborative discussions on 6th grade level topics and texts; engage effectively with varied partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own ideas clearly.

#### Quarter Two Standards

- 6.L.CS.1a When reading or listening, explain the function of pronouns (case, intensive pronouns, pronoun antecedent agreement).
- 6.L.CS.1b When writing or speaking, use pronouns (case, intensive pronouns, pronoun antecedent agreement) effectively.
- 6.L.KL.3 When writing and speaking, vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style; maintain consistency in style and tone.
- 6.RL.KID.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary.

- 6.RL.CS.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including allusions to other texts.
- 6.RI.KID.2 Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through details; provide an objective summary.
- 6.RI.CS.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.
- 6.RI.IKI.7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats, such as in tables, images, diagrams, and words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
- 6.RI.IKI.8 Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
- 6.RI.IKI.9 Compare and contrast two or more authors' presentation of the same topic or event.
- 6.RI.RRTC.10 Read and comprehend a variety of literary nonfiction throughout the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with a gradual release of scaffolding at the high end as needed.
- 6.SL.CC.3 Explain a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
- 6.SL.PKI.4 Present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
- 6.SL.PKI.6 Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
- 6.W.TTP.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- a. Introduce claim(s).
- b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, sufficient evidence; acknowledge alternate or opposing claim(s).
- c. Organize the reasons and evidence clearly and clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
- d. Use credible sources and demonstrate an understanding of the topic or source material.
- e. Craft an effective and relevant conclusion that supports the argument presented.
- f. Use precise language and content-specific vocabulary.
- g. Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- h. Use varied sentence structure to enhance meaning and reader interest.
- i. Establish and maintain a formal style
- 6.W.PDW.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

- 6.W.PDW.5 With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 6.)
- 6.W.PDW.6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to collaborate with others; type a complete product in a single sitting as defined in W.1-3.

## **Quarter Three Standards**

- 6.W.TTP.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- a. Introduce a topic clearly, using the introduction to prepare the reader for what is to follow.
- b. Organize ideas, concepts, and information using effective strategies to create cohesion and aid in comprehension.
- c. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- d. Thoroughly and accurately explain and elaborate on the evidence provided, demonstrating a clear understanding of the topic and the source material.
- e. Craft an effective and relevant conclusion.
- f. Include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when appropriate.
- g. Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- h. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.
- i. Use varied sentence structure to enhance meaning and reader interest.
- j. Establish and maintain a formal style.
- 6.W.TTP.3 Write narratives (fiction and nonfiction) to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
- a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a speaker/narrator and/or participants/characters.
- b. Organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
- c. Create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
- d. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description when appropriate, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- e. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts, and show the relationships among experiences and events.
- f. Craft an effective and relevant conclusion that reflects on the narrated experiences or events.
- g. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.

## **Quarter Four Standards**

- 6.SL.CC.2 Interpret information presented in diverse media formats; explain how source information contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.
- 6.SL.PKI.5 Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.
- 6.W.RBPK.7 Conduct research to answer a question, drawing on multiple sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
- 6.W.RBPK.8 Integrate relevant and credible information from print and digital sources; quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.

## **Quizzes/Tests**

Quizzes and/or tests will be given at the teacher's discretion throughout or following a novel or a unit to assess the students' learning.

## **Field Trips**

Each nine weeks, we will have a reward trip for the students who have completed all of their assignments on time, have a passing grade, and good behavior.