

SWALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Curriculum Area: Communications

Course Length: One Year

Grade: 6

Date Last Approved: June 2023

Stage 1: Desired Results

Course Description and Purpose:

The Literature and Communications program for grade six is balanced and comprehensive. The language arts processes of reading, writing, listening, and speaking are taught in an integrated and interrelated manner. Course components include the study of rich and varied literature, writing in the genres of comparison of various media, narrative, expository, research, and response to literature. Direct instruction within this course includes language arts skills and strategies, including close reading, analysis, vocabulary development, and grammar; and a balance of oral and written and language activities. Students will be given the opportunity to practice the following communications strategies: Use of graphic organizers, sequential planning of narrative writing, multimedia presentation, on-demand responses (both oral and written), applying grammar to their own writing, and research strategies. Students will also continue to refine their ability to communicate effectively through writing, reading, speaking, and listening.

Enduring Understanding(s):

1. Reading expands understanding of the world, people and oneself.
2. Effective readers use strategies to construct and extend meaning.
3. Various types of texts and media are used to communicate ideas.
4. Knowledge and ideas are developed by evaluating multiple sources of text to gain information and create perspectives.
5. Effective written communication relies on choosing the proper form of writing to clearly communicate ideas.
6. Control of mechanics and proper grammar promote effective spoken and written communication.
7. Listening and speaking skills are critical for learning and communicating.

Essential Question(s):

1. How do reading strategies impact a reader's comprehension and analysis of text?
2. How does reading a wide variety of texts expand one's knowledge of the world?
3. How do text features, structures, word-choice and characteristics influence understanding of a variety of genres?
4. How does what is written impact or influence readers?
5. How do rules of language affect communication?
6. How does a writer choose a particular form of writing?
7. What ways can a writer's message be impacted by punctuation and grammatical correctness or incorrectness?
8. How does understanding the audience influence the way a message is communicated orally?

Learning Targets:

3. Students can create written work for a variety of tasks, purposes, and audiences
4. Produce language that demonstrates knowledge of conventions, grammar
5. Organize and communicate ideas to others

Stage 2: Learning Plan

- I. Setting Up the RLA Workshop
- A. Proper email format and tone
- B. Essay format review
- C. Annotation and response to text
- D. Academic integrity
- E. Grammar
- F. Greek and Latin roots
- G. Monthly essays

Standards Referenced: College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for writing, listening/speaking, and language

Learning Targets Addressed:

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College and Career Readiness Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.1

Production and Distribution of Writing:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.2

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.3

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.4

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.5

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.6

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.8

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.9

Conventions of Standard English:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.1

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.2

Knowledge of Language:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.3

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.4

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.5

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.6

Key Unit Resources

- Articles on proper email usage
- IXL
- NewsELA
- CommonLit
- Short Films and Multimedia
- Prestwick House/MyPerspectives Greek and Latin roots

Assessment Map:

	Type	Level	Assessment Detail
	Practice	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammar practice (IXL) • Vocabulary practice and study (Greek and Latin Roots) • Class discussions • Vocabulary work
	Formative	Skills/ Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email to teacher • Response to Lit paragraph - nonfiction • Monthly essays • Greek and Latin Roots • IXLs
Summative	Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IXL quizzes • Response to Lit paragraph - fiction 	

II. Author's Craft

A. Understand elements of story writing

B. Utilize graphic organizers to plan a creative narrative

C. Provide feedback to others on their writing

D. Use constructive criticism from peers and teachers to enhance writing skills

E. Grammar

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Production and Distribution of Writing:

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CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.2

Knowledge of Language:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.3

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use:

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CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.5

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Key Unit Resources

- IXL
- Turnitin.com
- Prestwick House/MyPerspectives Greek and Latin roots

Assessment Map:

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Practice	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Grammar practice (IXL)● Vocabulary practice and study (Greek and Latin Roots)● Class discussions● Vocabulary work

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editing checklist
Formative	Skills/ Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphic organizers • Author's craft exercises • Monthly essays • Greek and Latin Roots • IXLs
Summative	Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IXL quizzes • Creative writing story

III. Childhood

A. Identify and utilize literary devices and poetry elements

B. Write poetry about lived experiences

C. Present poetry in a neat, clear way

D. Write a narrative about one's own life

E. Create a written work about oneself that can be shared with others

F. Conduct research on a notable person

G. Write a paper using research done about someone else

H. Present research findings to a group of peers

I. Grammar

J. Greek and Latin roots

K. Monthly essays

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CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.7

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.8

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6.9

Comprehension and Collaboration:

Comprehension and Collaboration:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.2

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas:

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Key Unit Resources

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- Turnitin.com
- Prestwick House/MyPerspectives Greek and Latin roots
- Books on notable people from Swallow library
- Biography.com and similar biographical databases

Assessment Map:

Type	Level	Assessment Detail
Practice	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Grammar practice (IXL)● Vocabulary practice and study (Greek and Latin Roots)● Class discussions● Vocabulary work● Autobiography bell ringers/exit tickets● Biography research
Formative	Skills/ Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Graphic organizers● Monthly essays● Greek and Latin Roots● IXLs● Poetry exercises● Autobiography check-ins● Biography research check-ins
Summative	Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● IXL quizzes● Poetry Project● Autobiography Book● Biography Essay● Biography Presentation

IV. Public Speaking

A. Write an argument to support a claim

B. Conduct research to support a claim and counterclaim

C. Use words phrases and clauses to clarify relationships among ideas

D. Engage in a collaborative discussion to present a clear argument

E. Engage in a respectful debate against an opposing viewpoint

F. Integrate evidence into an argument

G. Write a demonstration speech that is clear and direct

H. Direct an audience clearly on how to perform a skill

I. Grammar

J. Greek and Latin roots

K. Monthly Essays

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- Turnitin.com
- Debate example videos
- Scope magazines
- Prestwick House/MyPerspectives Greek and Latin roots

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Practice	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grammar practice (IXL) ● Vocabulary practice and study (Greek and Latin Roots) ● Class discussions ● Vocabulary work ● Speech examples ● Debate research
Formative	Skills/ Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Speech graphic organizer ● Speech writing check-ins ● Speech slides check-in ● Greek and Latin Roots ● IXLs ● Debate graphic organizer ● Debate check-ins
Summative	Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IXL quizzes ● Monthly essays ● Demonstration Speech ● In-Class Debate

V. Exploration

A. Work collaboratively with a group of peers to write a narrative

B. Engage in discussion and planning out how to execute a project

C. Use multimedia tools to create a visual narrative

D. Employ research skills to create a project demonstrating knowledge of a topic

E. Analyze an issue with research to back it up

F. Engage an audience

G. Grammar

H. Greek and Latin roots

I. Monthly Essays

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- IXL
- Scope Plays
- Internet-based video editing tools
- Prestwick House/MyPerspectives Greek and Latin roots

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Practice	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Grammar practice (IXL)● Vocabulary practice and study (Greek and Latin Roots)● Class discussions● Vocabulary work● Video narrative graphic organizer● Conducting research lessons
Formative	Skills/ Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Group research notecards● Group research check-ins● Monthly essays● Greek and Latin Roots● IXLs● Scope Plays
Summative	Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● IXL quizzes● Video Narrative● Group Research Presentation