



Avon Grove Charter School
English Language Arts Skills
Grade Level: Sixth

AGCS uses Collections as its primary middle level ELA program. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the major concepts/skills at this grade level. Parents are the target audience of this resource, however students may also find it helpful as a skills checklist.

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

A student will be able to...

- Determine the central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences and/or generalizations drawn from the text.
- Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text.
- Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.
- Analyze the author's structure through the use of paragraphs, chapters, or sections.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in grade-level reading and content, including interpretation of figurative language in context.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in grade-level reading and content, including interpretation of figurative language in context.
- Integrate information presented in different media formats (e.g. visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
- Evaluate an author's argument by examining claims and determining if they are supported by evidence.
- Examine how two authors present similar information in different types of text.
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade-level reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies and tools.
- Read and comprehend literary non-fiction and informational text on grade level, reading independently and proficiently.

LITERATURE

A student will be able to...

- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences and/or generalizations drawn from the text.
- Describe how a particular story or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes, as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward resolution.
- Determine an author's purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in a text.

- Analyze how the structure of a text contributed to the development of theme, setting, and plot.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in grade-level reading and content, including interpretation of figurative language in context.
- Compare and contrast the experiences of reading a story, drama, or poem to listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text, including contrasting what is “seen” and “heard” when reading the text to what is perceived when listening or watching.
- Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics as well as their use of additional literary elements.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade-level reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies and tools.
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
- Read and comprehend literary fiction on grade level, reading independently and proficiently.

WRITING-INFORMATIVE & EXPLANATORY

A student will be able to...

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information clearly.
- Identify and introduce the topic for the intended audience.
- Develop and analyze the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples; include graphics and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- Organize ideas, concepts, and information using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts; provide a concluding statement or section; include formatting when useful to aiding comprehension.
- Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of composition. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

WRITING-OPINION & ARGUMENTATIVE

A student will be able to...

- Write arguments to support claims.
- Introduce and state an opinion on a topic.
- Use clear reasons and relevant evidence to support claims, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic.
- Organize the claim(s) with clear reasons and evidence clearly; clarify relationships among claim(s) and reasons by using words, phrases, and clauses; provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.
- Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of composition. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

WRITING-NARRATIVE

A student will be able to...

- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events.
- Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator and/or characters.
- Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, and pacing, to develop experiences, events and/or characters; use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experience and events.
- Organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically, using a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another; provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences and events.
- Write with an awareness of stylistic aspects of writing. Use precise language.
- Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

WRITING

A student will be able to...

- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research, applying grade-level reading standards for literature and literary nonfiction.
- With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single setting.
- Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
- Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of other while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.
- Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

A student will be able to...

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions on grade-level topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims by identifying specific reasons and evidence, and recognize arguments or claims not supported by factual evidence.
- Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g. visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.
- 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.
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks.
- Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.

-Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English when speaking based on grade 6 level content.