

Glen Ridge Public Schools –8th Grade Public Speaking Curriculum



Course Title: Public Speaking

Subject: Cycle Class

Grade Level: 8th Grade

Duration: 6 weeks

Prerequisite: None

Elective or Required: Required (Mandatory Cycle)

Department Mission Statement:

We believe that language and literacy are central to all human experience. New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards for Language Arts Literacy define Language Arts as “the abilities that enable one to think logically and creatively; express ideas; understand and participate meaningfully in spoken, written, and nonverbal communications; formulate and answer questions; and search for, organize, evaluate, and apply information.” We recognize that together teachers and students constitute a learning community, which necessitates an extensive repertoire of teaching strategies to address individual needs and learning styles. Through a challenging sequential academic curriculum, the Glen Ridge Language Arts Literary Program provides all students with varied and integrated experiences in writing, reading, speaking, listening, viewing, and research. While encouraging respect for cultural, gender and generational perspectives and developing the ability to articulate one’s opinions, the Language Arts Literacy Program promotes the acquisition and application of knowledge across the curriculum. To meet the challenges of the new millennium, the Program aims to empower students as lifelong learners, to heighten the spirit of inquiry, and to foster effective communication within an increasingly diverse society.

Course Description:

In Public Speaking, the 8th graders will learn about the basic components of public speaking through: viewing famous speeches, learning techniques and strategies to improve public speaking skills, participating in interactive classroom activities, preparing outlines for speeches, and presenting speeches. The students will learn about key vocabulary related to public speaking and how it applies to every-day life.

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Public Speaking

Topic/Unit: Introductory Unit: Learning Key Terms Associated with Public Speaking and the Three Main Types of Speeches

Approximate # of Weeks: 1.5

Essential Questions: What are effective communication skills when speaking amongst others and in front of an audience? What are the three main types of speeches and how do we identify the differences? What makes a visual appealing to an audience?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:

- understand the basic differences between an informative, persuasive, and celebratory/ceremonial speech
- gain knowledge of key terms associated with public speaking when analyzing a speech
- develop an awareness of social acceptance and being a respectful member of an audience
- be able to successfully create a visual appropriate for presentations

Interdisciplinary Standards (njcccs.org)

- **Standard 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century**
All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
- **Standard 9.1 21st-Century Life & Career Skills**
All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures.

Activities – include 21st Century Technologies:

- Smartboard Lessons, Power Point Presentations
- Discovery Ed./United Streaming
- Collaborative Assignments
- View and analyze various speeches through whole-group discussion
- Jigsaw Activities

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Enrichment Activities:

- Response on teacher blog
- Find connections in real-life experiences
- Ice-breaker activities to open or close class
- The Truth/Lie Game
- Tabboo
- “Just a Minute” Activity
- Stage Fright Relaxation Activity

Methods of Assessments/Evaluation:

- Oral Presentation
- Poster/Display
- Pair/Share
- Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down
- Multi-media Presentation

Resources/Including Online Resources

- Teacher webpage
- Class handouts
- Sample videos
- Katz, Daniel R., ed. *Why Freedom Matters*. New York: Workman Publishing Company, Inc., 2003. Print.
- TED Talks
- Carlile, Clark S., and Dana V. Hensley. *38 Basic Speech Experiences*. 10th ed. Logan: Clark Publishing, 2003. N. pag. Print.

Public Speaking

Topic/Unit: Informative Speeches: Speeches that Share Information or Give Instruction

Approximate # Of Weeks: 1.5

Essential Questions: What is an informative speech? What are the reasons/situations we give informative speeches? What are effective presentation methods when preparing and giving a speech? What makes a strong opening, body, and closing in a speech?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:

- outline, prepare, and present an informative speech
- recognize examples of informative speeches in everyday experiences

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- recognize strong and weak presentation skills relating to: body language, word choice, eye contact, voice projection, and proper attire
- create a visual that appropriately and effectively engages an audience

Interdisciplinary Standards (njcccs.org)

- **Standard 9.1 21st-Century Life & Career Skills**
All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures.
- **Standard 9.3 - Career Awareness, Exploration, and Preparation**
All students will apply knowledge about and engage in the process of career awareness, exploration, and preparation in order to navigate the globally competitive work environment of the information age.

Activities – include 21st Century Technologies:

- Smartboard Lessons, Power Point Presentations
- View and analyze sample informative speeches in the media
- Differentiated Lesson Activity on Creating a Visual

Enrichment Activities:

- Find connections in real-life experiences
- Independent Work
- Peer revisions through oral feedback

Methods of Assessments/Evaluation:

- Oral Presentation
- Poster/Display
- Peer Evaluation- Speech Feedback Sheets
- Self-Evaluation
- Multi-media Presentation
- Rubrics
- Observation
- Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down

Resources/Including Online Resources

- Teacher Webpage
- Class handouts
- *The People Speak: A People's History of the United States and Voices of a People's History of the United States*. Universal Music Company, 2009. CD-ROM.
- Katz, Daniel R., ed. *Why Freedom Matters*. New York: Workman Publishing Company, Inc., 2003. Print.
- TED Talks

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- Carlile, Clark S., and Dana V. Hensley. *38 Basic Speech Experiences*. 10th ed. Logan: Clark Publishing, 2003. N. pag. Print.

Public Speaking

Topic/Unit: Persuasive Speeches: Speeches that Convince or Give Charge to an Audience on a Topic or Topics

Approximate # Of Weeks: 1.5

Essential Questions: What is a persuasive speech? What are the reasons/situations we give persuasive speeches? How do we use and observe persuasive techniques in other aspects of our lives? How do we successfully prepare and present a persuasive speech?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:

- analyze a persuasive speech and identify persuasive techniques used
- understand persuasive techniques and their effectiveness in giving a speech
- recognize situations where we see persuasive speeches and techniques in real-life experiences

Interdisciplinary Standards (njeccs.org)

- **Standard 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century**
All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

Activities – include 21st Century Technologies:

- Class Debate
- SmartBoard Lessons
- Debate Observation Presentation
- Read, view, and analyze persuasive speeches from significant historical events in the US

Enrichment Activities:

- Find connections in real-life experiences
- Independent Work
- Peer revisions through oral feedback

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Methods of Assessments/Evaluation:

- Oral Presentation
- Poster/Display
- Peer Evaluation- Speech Feedback Sheet
- Self-Evaluation, Exit Slip
- Multi-media Presentation
- Rubrics
- Observation

Resources/Including Online Resources

- Teacher Webpage
- Class handouts
- *The People Speak: A People's History of the United States and Voices of a People's History of the United States*. Universal Music Company, 2009. CD-ROM.
- Katz, Daniel R., ed. *Why Freedom Matters*. New York: Workman Publishing Company, Inc., 2003. Print.
- TED Talks
- Roth, Vernon. *125 Good Persuasive Speech Topics*. Helpful Paper Blog, May. Web. 14 Aug. 2013.
- YouTube clips from various persuasive speeches
- Carlile, Clark S., and Dana V. Hensley. *38 Basic Speech Experiences*. 10th ed. Logan: Clark Publishing, 2003. N. pag. Print.

Public Speaking

Topic/Unit: Celebratory/Ceremonial Speeches: Speeches that Celebrate or Commemorate Special Events

Approximate # Of Weeks: 1.5

Essential Questions: What is a celebratory/ceremonial speech? What are the reasons/situations we give celebratory/ceremonial speeches? What types of occasions do we observe, or experience, celebratory/ceremonial speeches? How do we successfully prepare and present a celebratory/ceremonial speech?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:

- identify and analyze a celebratory/ceremonial speech
- recognize situations where we see ceremonial/celebratory speeches in real-life experiences

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- prepare and perform a ceremonial/celebratory speech of their choice
- become familiar with various situations where one would have to speak in an impromptu setting
- recall and summarize their experience in the course through self-reflection and assessment

Interdisciplinary Standards (njcccs.org)

- **Standard 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century**

All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

- **Standard 9.3 - Career Awareness, Exploration, and Preparation**

All students will apply knowledge about and engage in the process of career awareness, exploration, and preparation in order to navigate the globally competitive work environment of the information age.

Activities – include 21st Century Technologies:

- SmartBoard Lessons
- Power Point Presentations
- Impromptu Activity- role play and share feedback
- View and analyze sample celebratory/ceremonial speeches in real-life experiences

Enrichment Activities:

- Independent Work
- Peer revisions through oral feedback
- Whole-Class Jeopardy

Methods of Assessments/Evaluation:

- Oral Presentation
- Peer Evaluation- Speech Feedback Sheet
- Multi-media Presentation
- Rubrics
- Self-Reflection
- Observation

Resources/Including Online Resources

- Teacher Webpage
- Class handouts

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- *The People Speak: A People's History of the United States and Voices of a People's History of the United States*. Universal Music Company, 2009. CD-ROM.
- TED Talks
- YouTube clips from various ceremonial/celebratory speeches
- Carlile, Clark S., and Dana V. Hensley. *38 Basic Speech Experiences*. 10th ed. Logan: Clark Publishing, 2003. N. pag. Print.