

8th Grade English Language Arts Curriculum Overview

Introductory paragraph (3-4 sentences) which includes the learning focus and the Board adopted textbook series that is used as a foundation for the course. (Think of what you share on Curriculum Night)

The 8th Grade English Language Arts class utilizes an array of literary genres including; fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama and biography to provide a wide range of instructional activities in reading, writing, grammar and speaking & listening. The course utilizes the *StudySync* curriculum to challenge students with increasing text complexity throughout the school year and assess student's knowledge of the Common Core English Language Arts Standards.

Skills to be developed throughout the course: (bulleted list of skills that students will work on throughout the course)

- Understanding Literature
- Comprehending Informational Text
- Developing speaking and listening skills
- Producing, editing and revising writing
- Utilizing appropriate grammar in writing and speaking

In Gower Middle 8th Grade English Language Arts Classrooms:

- Students will be able to read and understand grade level literature and informational texts.
- Students will work to critically analyze a text.
- Students will make interpretations about a text.
- Students will examine how characters, setting and plot lead to the theme or central idea of a text.
- Students will explain how specific pieces of dialogue propel the action of a text.
- Students will compare and contrast two texts and how the structure contributes to the meaning and style.
- Students will develop writing pieces in response to texts read throughout the course.
- Students will write arguments with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- Students will write to explain a topic or concept.
- Students will research a topic through credible sources and compile information.
- Students will craft narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events.
- Students will revise and edit their writing.
- Students will effectively participate in classroom discussions.
- Students will lead peer discussions.
- Students will present information orally to class through a formal presentation.

Units of Study:

- Past and Present
- Mystery and Suspense

- No Risk, No Reward
- Trying Times
- Hear me Out: Words Matter

The Learning Standards for this course are (ie Common Core Standards, Illinois Learning Standards, National Standards). Priority standards should be listed and linked below:

[Common Core English Language Arts Standards](#)

Example:

EXAMPLE Social Studies: Grade 6 Curriculum Overview

Introductory paragraph (3-4 sentences) which includes the learning focus and the Board adopted textbook series that is used as a foundation for the course. (Think of what you share on Curriculum Night)

Skills to be developed throughout the course: (bulleted list of skills that students will work on throughout the course)

- Inquiry skills
- Map skills
- Use of primary and secondary sources

In Gower 6th Grade Social Studies Classrooms:

- Students will be able to....
- Students will learn...
- Students will

Units of Study:

- Early Man/Archeology
- Mesopotamia
- Egypt
- India
- China
- Greece
- Rome

The Learning Standards for this course are the Illinois Social Science Standards.

- Include link to appropriate priority standards