

Rationale

The Language Essentials curriculum is designed to provide the learner with individually differentiated strategies to enhance learning. The student will develop knowledge and skills to become effective communicators. The course promotes oral and written skills which are necessary for effective communication in real life situations.

Course Description

The student will further study the parts of speech, spelling, vocabulary word usage, public speaking as well as research. Upon completion of the course the student will be able to apply these skills into effective written and oral communications. Selected objectives will be taught based on the student's IEP goals. This course is designed to be a multi-year course for the middle school student requiring intensive strategy instruction in the small group setting.

Prerequisites

Prerequisite: IEP team recommendation
Open to: 6, 7, 8

Course Objectives

WRITING

1. The student will apply a writing process in composing text. The student will be able to follow a writing process to create graphic organizers and write effectively in various forms and types of writing with 80% accuracy as assessed by teacher made tests, compositions, projects, presentations or scoring guides. **Assessed on MAP; Grade 6, 7, 8. (GLE: CA 6, Wri-1; CA 1, 4; 1.8, 2.1, 2.2)**

(ACT Standards)

- Delete redundant material when information is repeated in different parts of speech (e.g., "alarmingly startled") (Eng WCH 401)
- Use the word or phrase most consistent with the style and tone of a fairly straightforward essay (Eng WCH 402)
- Determine the clearest and most logical conjunction to link clauses (Eng WCH 403)

2. The student will write effectively in various forms and types of writing with 80% accuracy as assessed by teacher made tests, compositions, projects, presentations or scoring guide. **Assessed on MAP; Grade 6, 7, 8. (GLE: CA 7, Wri-3; CA 2, 3, 4; 1.6, 1.8, 2.1)**

The student will:

- Use a variety of note-taking methods to organize information
- Use vocabulary strategies to demonstrate meaning within context
- Apply grammar usage skills using a variety of sentence structures
- Write expository paragraphs and essays from a variety of sources
- Respond to literature and show an understanding of literary elements including **theme**
- Write a multi-paragraph summary of non-fiction texts
- Compose texts that include charts/graphs/graphic organizers
- Write a **formal business letter** and address an envelope
- Address two different audiences and purposes using appropriate forms

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

1. The student will develop and apply effective listening skills and strategies. The student will actively listen for enjoyment, information, directions, and to recognize and interpret propaganda techniques. In addition, in discussions and presentations, students will use media, notes, and use designated time constraints. The student will give clear and concise multi-step directions to complete complex tasks with 80% accuracy as assessed by teacher made tests, compositions, projects, presentations or scoring guides. **Locally Assessed. (GLE: CA 7, L/S-1; CA 5, 6; 1.5, 1.6, 1.10)**

2. The student will develop and apply effective speaking skills and strategies for various audiences and purposes. In discussions and presentations, the student will speak clearly and stay on topic, use appropriate volume, tone of voice, rate of speech, fluency/inflections, and eye contact. The student will give clear and concise multi-step directions to complete a complex task with 80% accuracy as assessed by teacher made tests, compositions, projects, presentations or scoring guides. **Locally Assessed. (GLE: CA 6, L/S-2; CA 1, 6; 2.1, 2.3)**

INFORMATION LITERACY

Language Essentials - Grades 6-8

Mehlville School District
Special Education
Grades 6 - 8, Duration 1 Year

1. The student will conduct research by gathering information using technological tools and other resources to locate, select, and organize information using at least 3 different sources to create a research essay and present orally with 80% accuracy as assessed by teacher made tests, compositions, projects, presentations or scoring guides. **Assessed on MAP; Grade 7. (GLE: CA 6, I/Lit-1; CA 2, 3, 4, 5; 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.7, 1.8, 2.3)**

The student will:

- Develop questions and statements of purpose to guide research
- Locate and use multiple resources
- Record relevant information using a variety of note-taking and organizational formats
- Define **plagiarism** and document research sources
- Create an oral presentation based on research
- Evaluate oral and visual media

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