

6th English Language Arts and Social Studies

Teacher: Mrs. Hannah Spiers

About The Teacher: This is my 6th year teaching English Language Arts, and it's my 2nd year at Springdale Elementary School. I am from Claiborne County, but I live in Virginia with my husband and my daughter. My focus this year is to help my students become strong readers and writers as well as good citizens of our school and community.

Class Materials: Class materials list can be found on the school Facebook page, as well as on our school website.

Classroom Expectations:

1. **Be here:** I believe all students can learn, but I can't teach someone who isn't in class.
2. **Be involved:** It's up to you to put in the work to pass my classes. Ask questions, raise your hand, and do the work assigned and you'll pass my class.
3. **Be kind:** I have a **zero tolerance policy** for bullying. Your words and actions **matter** and can have a lasting impact on your peers, whether positive or negative.
4. **Be respectful:** The Golden Rule states "Do unto others as you would have them to do unto you." Translation – if you want to be treated with respect, treat others with respect. This expectation extends to the entire school, not just the classroom.

Discipline Policy: In order to guarantee your child and all students experience the excellent learning environment they deserve, students must adhere to the classroom expectations. Please refer to the school handbook for the school wide discipline policy. Each 6th grade class has a conduct book for recording disciplinary infractions. Behavior, attendance, and grades are taken into consideration when going on field trips. If any of these areas are an issue, the student may not be permitted to attend a field trip or other fun school activities. Any in-school or out of school suspensions will automatically warrant a loss of privileges including field trips and other fun school activities.

Classroom Procedures: Come to class on time and come prepared. Be ready to get to work. Morning work will be located in the progress folder and students should begin work immediately.

Food Policy: Limit food consumption to designated times such as breakfast, snack, or lunch. Please notify the school if your student has special dietary needs.

Cheating Policy: Anyone caught cheating will be given an automatic zero.

Artificial intelligence policy: With the increasing popularity of artificial intelligence (**also known as AI**), students are tempted to use these tools when completing assignments. Using **AI** to complete an assignment is a form of cheating, and using it to complete assignments will result in a **zero**.

Absence Policy: If a day of school is missed, students should see the teacher to receive any missing work. Any hard copies completed in class will be found in the students' mailbox or workbook in the classroom.

Grading Policy: All students will have work graded and returned to them by the end of each nine-week period. Writing takes longer to grade, so it takes longer to return to students. I will also include feedback and opportunities to raise your grade on all writing assignments. Below is the grading scale that I use in my classes.

Daily work- 80%

Tests-20%

Extra Credit: As of this time, no extra credit opportunities are available. Re-do opportunities may be offered on a case by case basis.

Makeup Work: We encourage all students to not miss school unless it is absolutely necessary. If a student misses classroom time, it is instructional time that cannot be made up; it is simply gone. When a student is

present and an assignment is made, he/she will be held responsible for that assignment on its due date. If the student is present when an assignment is made but absent on the due date, the assignment will be due the day he/she returns to school. Makeup work will be provided for those students who miss assignments due to absences. The following conditions apply to makeup work:

1. Makeup time allowed will be equal to the time missed. For example, if a student misses two days of school, two days will be allowed after returning to school to complete makeup work.
2. Arranging to make up work is the responsibility of the student.
3. All requests for makeup work should be made to the teacher within five (5) days of return from the absence.
4. Tests missed during the absence will be taken during the regularly scheduled class time or at another time agreeable to the teacher and the student.

A zero (0) may be recorded for all work a student fails to make up.

Homework Policy: Homework will be sent home as-needed.

ELA Curriculum: Grade 6 ELA uses the “Wit and Wisdom” curriculum. Below I will list the novels which students will study.

6th grade:

Module 1: *Bud, Not Buddy*, Christopher Paul Curtis; *Out of the Dust*, Karen Hesse

Module 2: *The Odyssey*, Gillian Cross; *Ramayana: Divine Loophole*, Sanjay Patel

Module 3: *Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607*, Elisa Carbone; *Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland*, Sally Walker

Module 4: *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance*, Jennifer Armstrong; *I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World*, Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick.

Social Studies Curriculum: Grade 6 Social Studies uses the World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations, Tennessee Edition curriculum. Punisher is Mcgraw Hill. We will study ancient civilizations from Ancient Mesopotamia to Ancient Rome.

*All standards taught can be found at <https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards.html>

Teacher Contact Information:

It is **school district policy** that teachers **cannot** discuss students or student assignments on **any social media**. Facebook has been proven to be an unsecured website, and discussing a student on social media is considered a breach of confidentiality. Legally, I can **not** respond to ANY message about your student on Facebook Messenger, Instagram, TikTok, or any site. If you want to contact the teacher, please use the methods listed below.

Planning Period:

Planning is 9:50-10:35. You can call me at this time to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

Email: hannah.spiers@claibornecsd.org

School Phone: (423)-626-9142

The **best** way to contact me is through the **Remind** app. I can check these messages and respond throughout the school day.

Please keep the rest of the packet and return this page only.

Thank you so much for your assistance and cooperation during your child's educational journey. Please review this syllabus with your child and sign below. Feel free to contact me if you have questions. Please sign and return this page. Thank you.

"I have reviewed this syllabus with my child and understand the requirements of the course."

Student's Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____