Course Syllabus 2025/2026

Midway Elementary School

Ms. Melinda Clonce

Keep at Home

Course: 6th Grade ELA

Course Introduction:

Welcome to 6th grade English Language Arts! This course is designed to help students develop and hone critical reading and writing skills. Students will be introduced to a variety of different novels, and genres within those novels. Students are required to demonstrate the ability to compose argumentative/persuasive, informative, and narrative pieces of writing that address a specific topic, purpose, and audience. Students will experience an integrated reading, vocabulary, grammar, and writing approach to language. Chromebooks will be used as frequently as possible, and the classroom is designed for students to learn in groups and individually as they learn and grow to be more successful readers and writers.

Curriculum:

Wit and Wisdom

"*Wit & Wisdom*® is a comprehensive K–8 curriculum that has transformed English language arts (ELA) instruction in classrooms across the nation. Great Minds® believes that classrooms are places where students and teachers encounter wit, wisdom, wonder, rigor, and knowledge, and that literature, history, art, and science all have a place in ELA instruction.

By providing a framework for inquiry, *Wit & Wisdom* helps students build rich layers of knowledge. It inspires teachers and students to experience complex texts and ideas on a deeper level by fostering the questioning spirit that will shape the next generation of great writers, thinkers, and leaders."

-Great Minds

Curriculum can be found at:

https://greatminds.org/english

https://greatminds-sso.read.inkling.com/a/b/6734f52bcd9c42a6af49ce4258116443/p/90928a1ed70f4144ab04a9196bc77038

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Standards can be found at:

https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards/english-language-arts-standards.html

Class Materials:

- Pencils (3) packs
- Highlighters 4 pack multi-colored
- 1- 1 1/2" binder (3 rings)
- 6 tabbed dividers
- 1 zipper bag (pencil bag)- to keep in the binder
- Loose-leaf paper (3) packs - 100 count

Classroom Rules:

1. Respect yourself, your classmates, your teachers, and your school.
2. Be prepared for class.
3. Please raise your hand and wait to be called on when asking a question or adding to the class discussion.
4. Please stay seated and attentive while the teacher or classmates are talking.
5. All other school rules apply.

Classroom Procedures:

Our classroom has many procedures to ensure learning is occurring continually. Students will learn the procedures in class and be expected to use the procedures daily.

Discipline Policy:

1 **verbal** warning and redirection will be given before a mark on the Behavior Board.

1st offense: Redirection, Mark on Weekly Student Expectations Sheet **(Lonely Lunch)**
2nd offense: Redirection, Mark on Weekly Student Expectations Sheet, **(Specials Detention)**
3rd offense: Redirection, Mark on Weekly Student Expectations Sheet, **(Modified Recess)**
4th offense: Redirection, Mark on Weekly Student Expectations Sheet, **(Modified Recess & Classroom Citation)**
5th offense: Redirection, Mark on Weekly Student Expectations Sheet, **(Office Referral and consequences dependent on Principal's consequences)**

SEVERE CLAUSE: Infractions are so severe that the student automatically receives the Principal's attention.

1. Malicious destruction of school or student property.
2. Physical harm to any adult or student.
3. Blatant disrespect of authority.

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Food/Drinks Policy/:
Students may bring a water bottle with a twist-on lid to drink during class. **Please, no cups with lids. (examples, metal, plastic) Your child will move a lot, and cups are easy to spill. Gum will not be permitted in class**.

Cheating Policy:

Any student caught cheating will receive an extra assignment, possible modified grade, lonely lunch, and parents will be notified.

Absence Policy:

When a student returns from an absence, they should check the pocket chart in the classroom for missed assignments. These assignments should be completed at home or after classwork is completed. The work should be completed within two school days and includes any missed tests. (Extended time will be given for prolonged absences.) If students do not complete the missing assignment, the late/missing work policy below will be followed.

Late/Missing Work Policy:
After 2 days, if the assignment is still missing, the student will be held from recess privileges to finish the assignment. If the assignment is not finished in 3 recess days, the parent will be notified by a phone call that the assignment is due the next day. Failure to bring in the assignment will result in a final zero.

Grading Policy:

Various assignments such as homework, tests, classroom participation, quizzes, binder, and worksheets will be taken to determine each student's grades. Every student earns their grade and must work hard in and out of class.

Redo Work: I will allow any classroom work grade to be redone up until report cards go home. I will score the redo work by giving half credit back to the student (i.e, a student makes an 80 on an in-class assignment. This student redoes the assignment and makes a 100, the student will receive a 90.)

Test Grading Policy: Any failing grade on a test must be redone. The failing grade will be brought up to a 70. A score of 70 is the highest grade that can be earned on a failed test. A test score of 70 or above will not be redone as each student should have studied and been prepared for the end of unit test.
Technology Use: Students will often have assignments online, such as Google Classroom and IXL. Students will be allowed to use computers during a specific time in class. Students misuse of technology will be handled accordingly by administration.

- IXL - Login through Clever
- Google Classroom - Login through Gmail
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Teacher Contact Information:
Planning Period: 10:15-11:00
Email: melinda.clonce@claibornecsd.org
School Phone: 423-626-3067

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation during your child's sixth-grade journey. Please feel free to call or set up a meeting during my planning time (10:15-11:00).

Please keep the previous pages and refer to them during the year.

Please complete the page below and return to school with your child after you BOTH have read and signed the class syllabus.

“I have read and understood Ms. Melinda’s ELA Class Syllabus.”

_____

Student Signature **Date**

_____

Parent Signature **Date**