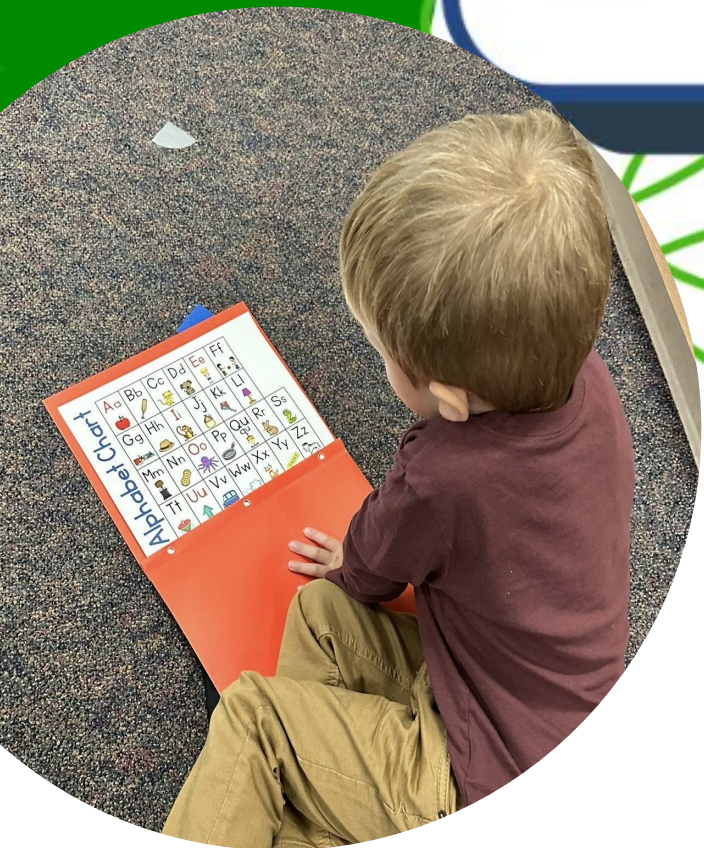


Kindergarten Reading

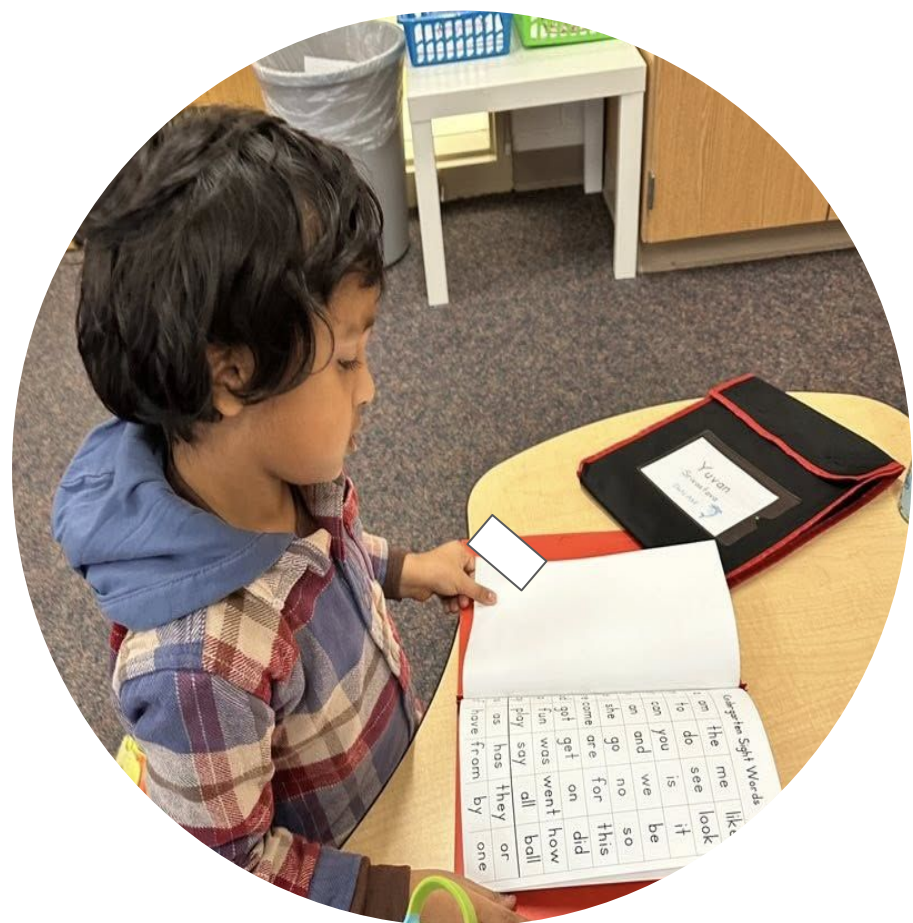


Enjoying stories and information

Students will listen to and talk about stories (characters, setting, major events), and also begin exploring informational texts: identifying main ideas, retelling key details, comparing texts. This helps them understand not just how to read words, but why reading is so wonderful — to learn, imagine, ask questions, and grow curious!

Exploring print and letters

Children will build the foundation of reading by understanding concepts about print: parts of a book, reading with directionality, understanding that spaces separate words, and identifying letters from words. Students also learn to name all uppercase and lowercase letters. This unlocks the “secret code” that connects spoken language to written words—so celebration is in order!

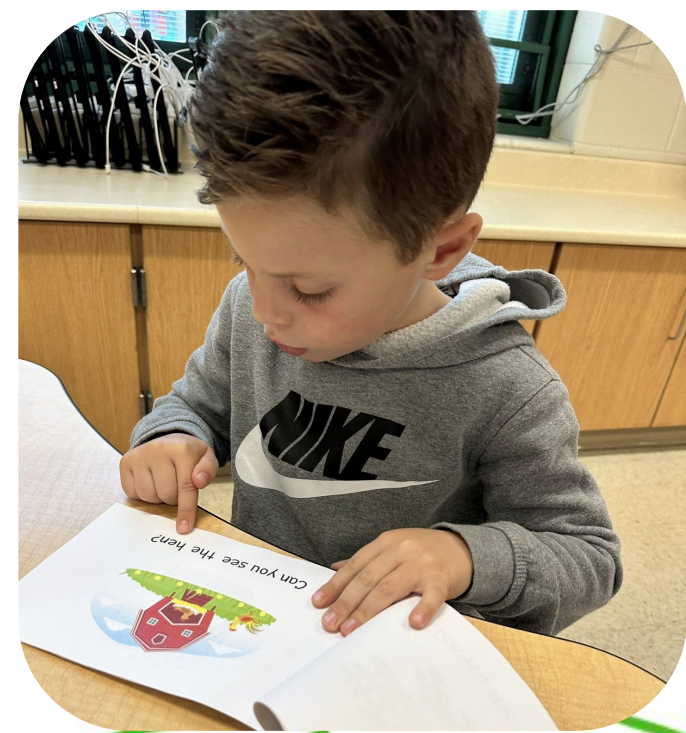


Playing with sounds and words

Kindergarteners start hearing and working with the sounds in words: rhymes, syllables, beginning and ending sounds, segmenting words, and blending sounds together. These phonics skills are the stepping stones to becoming confident readers and writers!

Key reading habits and group reading fun

Students engage actively in reading experiences—group reading, sharing ideas, asking questions about what they hear and read, and connecting text to what they know. Reading becomes a shared adventure, not just a solo task. Families cheering them on help make it extra special!

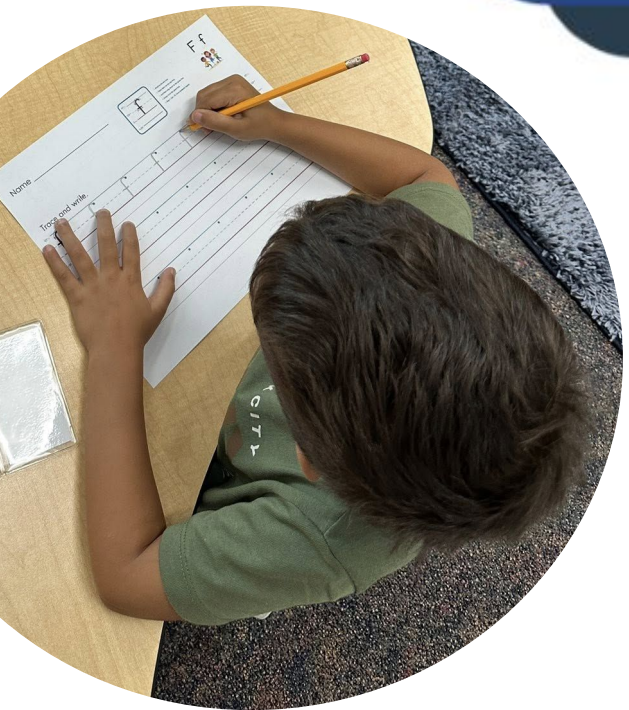


Becoming confident word users

From recognizing high-frequency words to beginning to decode simple words and understand how letters and sounds go together, your child will start making meaning from print independently. This is where your little reader begins to take flight — reading becomes something they do, not just something they watch.



Kindergarten Writing



Letters tall, letters small, write them all!

In kindergarten, students are learning to form letters correctly with a special focus on lowercase letters since they are used most often in reading and writing. Practicing proper letter formation helps children write more clearly and confidently, making their writing easier to read. Each letter has a “starting point” and a formation path to follow. With regular practice, children develop strong handwriting habits that will support all their future writing!

Emerging conventions and phonetic spelling!

Kindergarten writers are introduced to the conventions of writing: they learn to capitalize the first word in sentences, use spaces between words, end with punctuation, and spell simple words phonetically, drawing on their letter and sound knowledge.



Young writers find their voice!

Kindergarten writers begin to use drawing, dictating, and writing to share their ideas — whether it’s about their favorite book or a topic they care about. Children will proudly compose simple thoughts and preferences, building confidence as they express themselves!

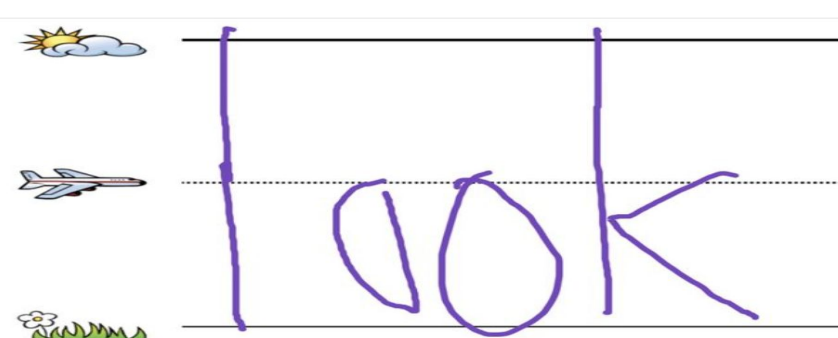
Writing for different purposes!

Kindergarteners don’t just write one way — they explore opinions, information/explanation, and narrative (stories). Writers learn to communicate ideas through drawing, labeling, dictation, use of high frequency sight words, and emergent writing.



Writing is a process: talk, draw, write!

Students’ writing emerges from drawing, labeling, talking, and/or dictating to then writing actual letter-words. Children’s big ideas may start as a picture, then a sentence and then more writing — they are learning how to build from picture to print.



First Grade Reading

Students crack the code of reading!

They learn to connect sounds to letters, blend them into words, and notice spelling patterns. Through phonics and word study, they become confident decoders who can read many new words on their own.



Reading becomes smooth and expressive.

Students practice reading aloud with accuracy, rhythm, and emotion — building the fluency needed to understand what they read and to begin reading independently for pleasure.

Students learn to share their thinking.

They discuss stories, characters, and big ideas, using evidence from the text to explain their reasoning. This strengthens comprehension and helps them become thoughtful listeners and speakers.

Every book opens a new window!

Through read-alouds, shared reading, and informational texts, students learn new words and ideas about the world — from animals and weather to friendships and feelings.

Students see themselves as readers.

They explore favorite authors and topics, make choices about what to read, and begin to understand that reading is both a tool for learning and a source of joy.



First Grade Writing



First Grade is a spectacular year of growth as children transform into real-life authors and storytellers!

The Power of Narrative!

Your child is writing amazing **stories** that sequence two or more events using specific details and time-order words. Get ready for exciting narratives from a true first-grade author!

The Art of Persuasion!

Students learn to write strong **opinion pieces** where they introduce a topic, state their clear opinion, and supply a supporting reason. They're finding their persuasive voices!

Reporting the Facts!

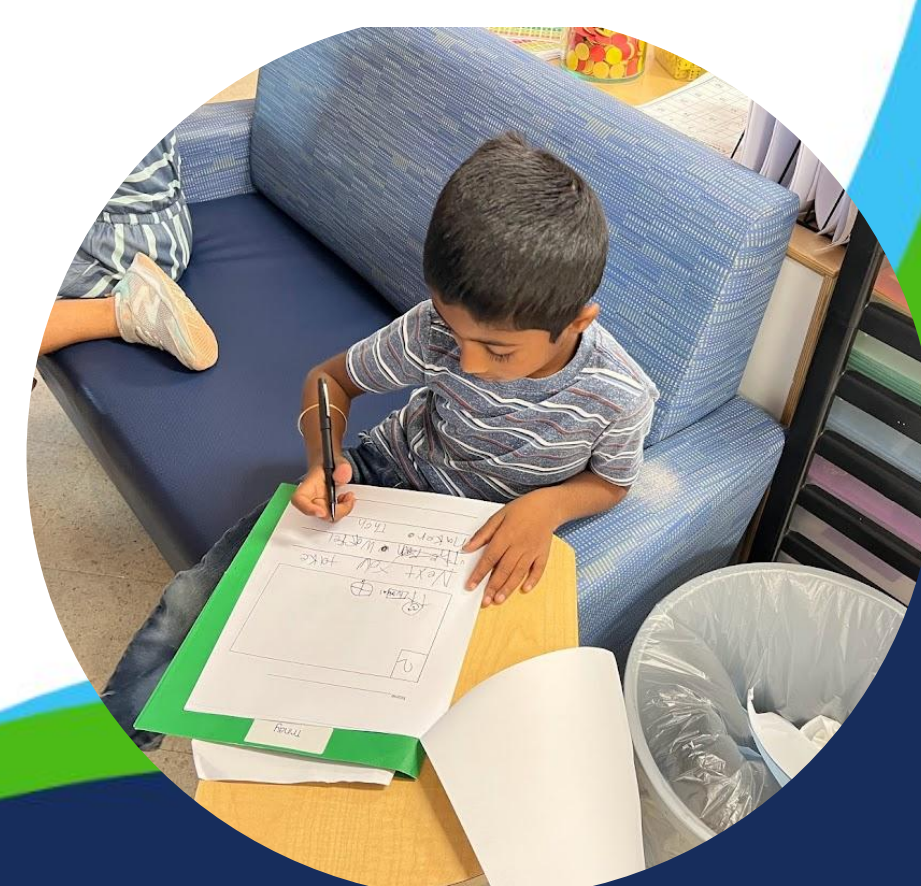
Our young writers are creating **informative reports** that name a topic and provide a set of verifiable facts about it. They are becoming excellent researchers and reporters.

Grammar Superstars!

We are building powerful, expanded, and **complete sentences** using correct capitalization and varied punctuation. Students master printing all upper- and lowercase letters to make their writing readable.

Writers' Workshop Wonders!

Writers actively **revise and edit** their work by adding details and correcting conventions, especially capitalization and end punctuation. They are learning the full writing process to polish their final drafts



Second Grade Reading



Read it Smooth, Read it Strong — Fluency Helps You Move Along!

In second grade, reading fluency is all about learning to read with accuracy, expression, and confidence. Fluent readers don't just sound out words — they read smoothly, like they're talking! When students practice reading every day, they begin to recognize words quickly and understand what they read more easily. Fluency helps stories come alive and makes reading more fun and meaningful. The more second graders practice, the better they get — and soon, reading becomes as natural as having a conversation!

Think While You Read — Comprehension Leads

In second grade, comprehension means understanding and thinking about what we read. Good readers don't just read the words — they picture the story in their minds, make connections, and ask questions as they go. When students stop to think about what's happening, who the characters are, and why things happen, they become active, thoughtful readers. Practicing comprehension helps second graders build stronger vocabulary, deeper understanding, and a true love for reading — because reading isn't just about finishing a book, it's about understanding it!

Sound It Out, Don't Leave a Doubt — Decode to Read All About!

In second grade, decoding is the key that unlocks reading success. Decoding means using letter sounds, word patterns, and phonics skills to figure out unfamiliar words. When students blend sounds together and look for chunks or word families they know, tricky words start to make sense! Strong decoding skills help readers become more confident and independent, turning those "hard" words into familiar friends. With practice, second graders learn to decode quickly and accurately — paving the way for smooth, successful reading every day!

Reading Fiction: Discover the Story — Five Elements, One Adventure!

In second grade, reading fictional texts is all about exploring stories and understanding the five key elements: characters, setting, problem, events, and solution. Characters are the people or animals in the story, and the setting tells us where and when the story happens. The problem shows the challenge the characters face, the events are the steps they take, and the solution reveals how everything gets resolved. When students pay attention to these elements, they can understand and enjoy stories more fully. Knowing the five story elements helps second graders think critically, remember details, and become stronger, more confident readers!



Reading Nonfiction: Ask, Find, Understand — Knowledge is in Your Hands!

In second grade, reading nonfiction means learning about real people, places, and things. Good nonfiction readers ask questions as they read and look for answers in the text. They also focus on the main idea, which is the most important point the author wants them to know. Paying attention to headings, captions, and key details helps students gather facts and understand the topic better. Practicing these skills helps second graders think critically, remember information, and become confident readers who can explore the real world through books!

Second Grade Writing

Write Your Story — Make Every Word Shine!

In second grade, narrative writing is all about telling a story from start to finish. Students learn to include the important parts of a story: a beginning that sets the scene, events that show what happens, and an ending that wraps it all up. Good narratives have interesting characters, clear details, and feelings that help readers connect with the story. Practicing narrative writing helps second graders organize their ideas, use strong words, and share their own unique stories with confidence. The more they write, the more their imagination and writing skills grow!

Inform, Explain, and Share — Nonfiction Writing Takes You There!

In second grade, nonfiction writing teaches students how to share real facts and information about the world around them. Writers choose a topic they know or want to learn more about, then organize their ideas into main ideas and supporting details. They use clear sentences, facts, and sometimes even diagrams or labels to help readers understand. Nonfiction writing helps second graders practice explaining, describing, and teaching others in an organized way. By writing to inform, they build strong thinking skills and become experts at communicating what they know!



Find Awesome Everywhere — Write to Convince and Show you Care!

In second grade, persuasive writing is all about sharing opinions and convincing others to see your point of view. Students learn to choose a topic they care about — something awesome they notice in everyday life — and explain why others should think it's great too! Strong persuasive writing includes a clear opinion, solid reasons, and examples that support the idea. When students look for the "awesome" all around them, they discover that they can use their words to inspire, encourage, and make a difference. Persuasive writing teaches second graders that their voices matter — and that writing can change minds in positive ways!

Reread, Revise, and Shine — Make Your Writing Fine!

In second grade, revising and editing help writers make their work the best it can be. Revising means looking back at writing to add details, make sentences clearer, and improve word choice. Editing means checking for spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes. When students take time to reread their writing, they learn to spot ways to make it stronger and easier to understand. Practicing revising and editing helps second graders become thoughtful, careful writers who take pride in their finished work — because great writing always takes a little polishing!

Write It Right — Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation Shine Bright!

In second grade, strong writing starts with solid grammar skills. Students learn how to use complete sentences, correct spelling, and proper capitalization and punctuation to make their writing clear and easy to read. Capital letters begin every sentence and show important names, while punctuation marks help readers know when to pause, stop, or get excited! Practicing these skills helps second graders become confident writers who can express their ideas neatly and correctly. When grammar, spelling, and punctuation work together, writing looks polished and professional — just like a real author's!

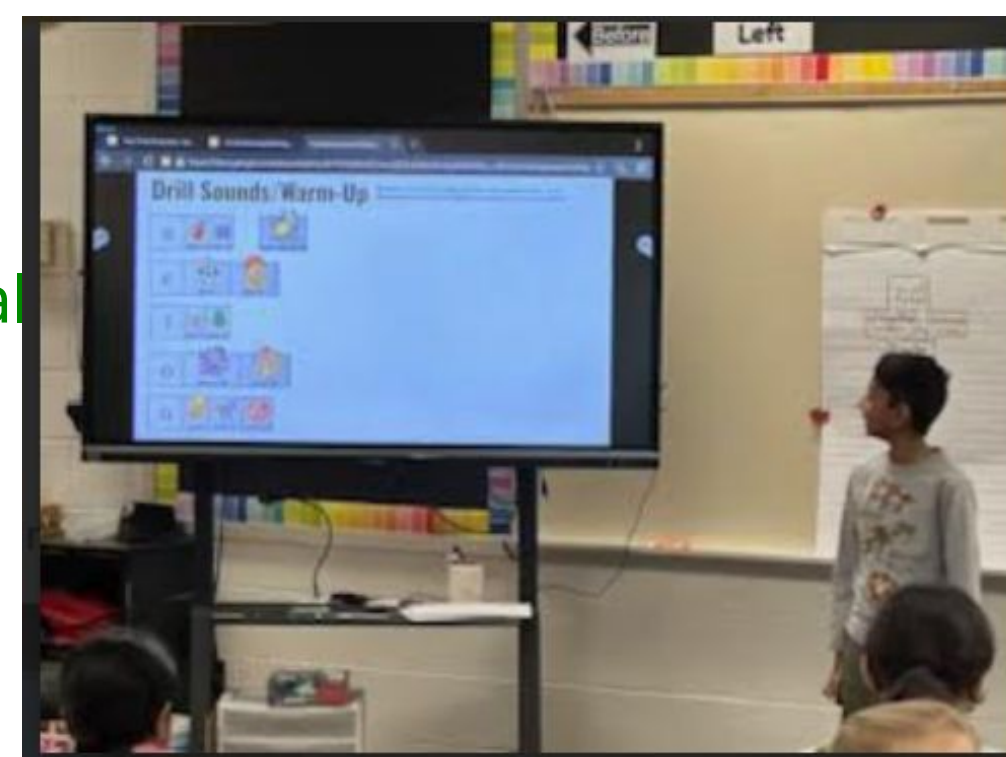
Third Grade Reading

Building Strong Reading Foundations

Third graders continue to strengthen phonics, decoding, spelling patterns, prefixes, suffixes, and Greek/Latin roots. These skills help students read bigger words, build vocabulary, and tackle more complex texts with confidence!

Reading to Learn - Thinking Deeply About Texts

Students go beyond “what happened” to why it matters. They infer, analyze characters and themes, and use text evidence to show understanding. Reading becomes a tool for learning and meaning-making.



Fluency Helps Reading Come Alive

As students read more smoothly, accurately, and with expression, books become easier to understand and more fun to read! Growing fluency boosts confidence and stamina during independent reading.

Exploring Many Types of Texts

From fiction and nonfiction to poetry, folktales, and informational texts, students explore many genres to widen their perspective. They compare texts, notice author’s craft, and learn how different kinds of writing work.



Joyful Readers with Growing Identities

Third graders discover what they love to read—authors, genres, topics, and styles that excite them. They share books, make recommendations, and celebrate reading in ways that build lifelong literacy joy.

Third Grade Writing

Writing with Purpose & Voice

Students learn to write for different purposes—to inform, to entertain, and to persuade! They begin to use their own voice, making writing more creative, meaningful, and uniquely theirs.

Building Strong Paragraphs

Third graders learn to craft organized writing with clear introductions, supporting details, and conclusions. They practice building paragraphs that stick together with transition words and focused ideas.

Using Mentor Texts to Learn Craft

Students study great authors to learn craft moves like strong leads, sensory details, dialogue, and word choice. They try these strategies in their own writing to make it come alive for readers!

The Writing Process Matters

Third graders don't just write once... they plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish! They learn that great writing improves through feedback, reflection, and effort. Growth mindset takes center stage!

Sharing Writing & Celebrating Ideas

Writers share their work with classmates and families through writing celebrations, author shares, and classroom publishing moments. They learn to give and receive feedback with kindness, confidence, and pride.



4th Grade Language Arts



Deepening Comprehension of Texts

Students take their reading up a notch by exploring both what the text says and what it implies. They learn to cite specific details from a story or informational text when explaining meaning or making inferences.

Writing with Purpose: Opinions, Information & Stories

Fourth-graders will be writing with clear goals: giving their opinion with reasons, explaining something clearly, and telling stories with detail and structure. For example, one standard says students will “Write opinion pieces ... supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Tackling More Challenging Words & Vocabulary

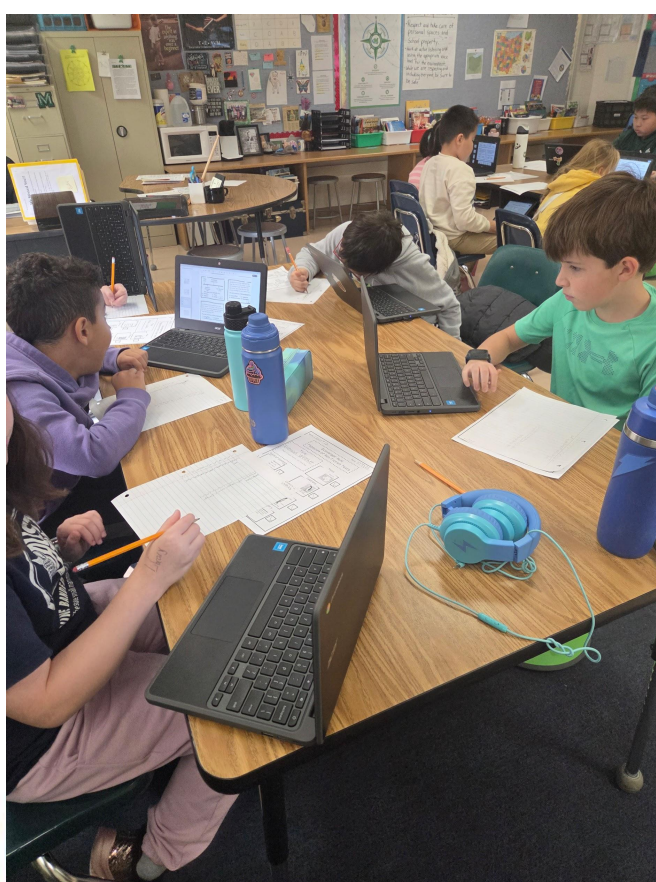
Students are working on decoding and understanding longer, more complex words, like words with roots, prefixes, suffixes, and multiple syllables. For example: “Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills ... to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words.

Reading Across Genres: Stories *and* Information

Fourth graders are reading more than just stories. They’re also reading informational texts (articles, reports, essays) and comparing how different texts work. They’ll analyze how an author uses reasons and evidence, or how point of view changes the story.

Speaking, Listening & Using Language with Confidence

Beyond reading and writing, 4th grade emphasizes strong use of **language**—grammar, vocabulary, conventions (like punctuation), and speaking/listening skills. For example, using transitional words (e.g., “in addition,” “for instance”) to link ideas in writing.



Fifth Grade Language Arts

Becoming Independent Reading Champions!

Your child is taking full charge of their reading life! This year emphasizes agency and independence, meaning students will: set their own **reading goals** and track their progress, **choose challenging, 'just-right' books** and learn strategies for when texts get tough, and **build reading stamina** and volume.

Unlocking the Secrets of Literature

Fifth graders become master interpreters of fiction. Students engage in **Interpretation Book Clubs** to share their brilliant theories and evidence-based ideas about the text with classmates! They also dive deeper into **themes** and **big ideas**, analyzing how they develop across a whole book.



Mastering the Maze of Complex Nonfiction

Nonfiction reading gets serious—and exciting! Students learn to tackle increasingly **complex informational texts** by: identifying **two or more main ideas** and explaining how a variety of key details support them, figuring out tricky vocabulary using **morphology** and context clues and analyzing the **author's use of reasons and evidence** to support their points — a huge skill for critical thinking!

Debating and Advocating with Research Power

This year, readers transform into **researchers and advocates!** Students will work in teams to **research debatable issues**, exploring all sides of an arguments. Additionally, they will integrate information from **several texts** on the same topic to **build a comprehensive understanding**. Students will also learn how to **evaluate arguments** and develop their own evidence-based positions, learning to use reading to inform their strong opinions and participate in **flash debates!**

Exploring New Worlds Through Genre Study

Students get to immerse themselves in exciting new worlds through a **fantasy genre study**. Students will notice **patterns, archetypes, and symbols** across fantasy novels to discover the magic of **universal themes**.



Sixth Grade Language Arts

Characters Who Change and Grow “Great Stories Grow—And So Do We!”

Uncover how people change through their experiences and choices. Set the stage with **complex themes** that reveal how growth, empathy, and self-discovery shape both characters and ourselves. Learn to analyze transformation as the heartbeat of every great story.



Argumentative “Think It. Prove It. Persuade the World!”

Master the art of **supporting arguments** with solid **facts** and clear reasoning. Strengthen your **organizing skills** to structure argumentative essays that capture your audience’s attention. Learn how to effectively create an argument that’s powerful, logical, and convincing based upon your research.



Overcoming Obstacles: “Every Challenge Is a Chapter—Keep Turning the Page!”

Dive deeper into fiction and nonfiction to analyze characters and stories. Discover how individuals face difficulties, show resilience, and grow stronger through their experiences. Each obstacle becomes an opportunity to learn about perseverance and the human spirit.



Global Issues “Ride the Waves of Change—Your Words Can Make Ripples!”

Explore how the ocean—and our world—are changing in powerful ways. Create compelling, researched, mind-blowing pieces that use quality evidence to create sound arguments about global and environmental issues. Your voice has the power to make waves that inspire real-world change.



7th & 8th Grade Language Arts

Unlocking Stories: Mastering the Art of Fiction

Both grade levels focus on Foundations of Reading Fiction. These units work to develop students' critical reading, writing, and discussion skills through close analysis of literary texts. Students learn to cite textual evidence, identify and analyze themes, characterization, important plot events, literary elements, and author's craft, including figurative language and irony. They practice independent reading with stamina and goal-setting, engage in structured collaborative discussions, and write analytical paragraphs with relevant evidence and developed elaboration. Both grades emphasize building a lifelong reading culture, understanding reading identity, and using reading and writing strategies to deepen comprehension and communication. The curriculum encourages reflection on diverse perspectives and connection-making between texts, self, and the world, preparing students for advanced literary analysis and effective expression.



Harnessing our Voice: Using the Power of Words to Propel Writing

Both grade levels incorporate a strong focus on writer's craft. In these units, students learn to craft engaging, clear, and purposeful writing through mastering grammar, syntax, diction, and narrative techniques. Students learn to use active and passive voice correctly, employ varied sentence structures, and integrate descriptive details and sensory language to create vivid, compelling narratives. Emphasis is placed on revision as a critical part of the writing process, using mentor texts to inspire and refine their own work, and providing and receiving constructive feedback within writing communities. Additionally, students analyze how authors use language and voice to create mood and suspense, make inferences, and engage readers. The curriculum promotes routine writing practice for diverse audiences and purposes, critical reading to support writing, and collaborative discussion to deepen understanding and empathy.

Information Detectives: Unlocking Truth through Research and Analysis

The middle school language arts curriculum emphasizes developing students' abilities to critically read, analyze, and synthesize informational texts. Students learn to identify central ideas, analyze text structures, evaluate author's purpose and perspective, and discern between objective and subjective information. They practice gathering credible sources, assessing reliability, avoiding plagiarism through paraphrasing and citation (using MLA format), and organizing research with clarity and coherence. The curriculum fosters skills in integrating evidence, comparing conflicting viewpoints, and engaging in thoughtful discussions. These units prepare students to navigate diverse informational mediums responsibly and produce well-supported, clear writing for varied audiences and purposes.



Voices that Persuade: Crafting Powerful Arguments

Teaching students how to write clear, logical, and well-supported argumentative essays is an important 21st century skill, no matter what post-secondary path students choose. In 7th and 8th grades, students learn to establish strong thesis statements, organize claims and counterclaims, and support their positions with credible evidence and sound reasoning. They develop skills in researching multiple sources, synthesizing information, and using rhetorical strategies like ethos, pathos, and logos. The curriculum emphasizes the importance of revision, formal style, and effective communication tailored to audience and purpose. Students also practice evaluating the reasoning in others' arguments and engaging in constructive feedback, preparing them to participate thoughtfully in academic and real-world discussions.



Journeys in Meaning: Exploring Stories and Voices

The 7th and 8th grade Literary Analysis unit develops students' skills in critical reading, writing, and discussion of complex texts. Students analyze themes, symbolism, character development, and plot, while building empathy and global awareness. The unit emphasizes citing evidence, reflective writing, collaboration, and engaging in Socratic seminars to foster thoughtful dialogue. Outcomes include critical reading and responding to diverse texts, providing constructive feedback, exploring multiple perspectives, and cultivating a collaborative, inquiry-driven learning community.

