

Capital's English/Language Arts curriculum is aligned with state and national standards and provides instruction in the areas of reading fluency and comprehension, writing, listening, speaking, and language. Students engage in the writing process as they receive instruction for writing across the curriculum for various purposes and audiences with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informative/explanatory writing. Teachers use research-based practices and materials to teach students. Students will have multiple opportunities to work both independently and collaboratively with peers.

Reading and writing for a variety of purposes, speaking confidently, and listening effectively are all very important parts of literacy development. The goals for your child encompass all areas of literacy.

Reading Literature and Informational Texts

- Read and understand grade level appropriate literary and informational texts of varied genres
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including connotative meanings and figurative language such as metaphors and similes
- Analyze literary elements, text structures, central ideas, and how visual and media elements contribute to the meaning, tone, and beauty of a text
- Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a text citing evidence from the text
- Describe how point of view influences the events in a story
- Make and explain connections to text (text to text, text to self, text to world)
- Integrate, evaluate, and summarize content from diverse formats
- Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills when decoding unfamiliar words

Writing/Research

- Write narrative, argumentative, and informative pieces on topics or texts, citing evidence to support their point of view with claims and reasons from the text.
- Write in a manner that demonstrates an awareness of the audience, purpose, and task
- Gather, evaluate, and use primary and secondary sources when appropriate, avoiding plagiarism
- Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising, editing, and rewriting
- Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge about a topic

Speaking and Listening

- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, using formal English when appropriate to task and situation
- Produce effective oral presentations using supporting evidence
- Summarize a written text read aloud; summarize the important points a speaker makes
- Prepare and participate effectively in collaborative discussions with diverse partners

Language

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking
- Demonstrate command of the conventions and standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing
- Demonstrate understand and usage of figurative language and word relationships, such as antonyms, synonyms, etc.
- Acquire and use general academic vocabulary appropriate for the middle school level

For more information about your child's English/Language Arts curriculum, please contact your child's teacher or call the Curriculum Office at 302-857-4235.