

Ms. Steinert
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Room 23

Language Arts Syllabus

Reading Content/Genres:

Short Stories

- We will be reading the following literature pieces and more: “Rip Van Winkle”, “Rikki-Tikki-Tavi”, “The Fun They Had”, “Feathered Friend”, “Sneaker Crisis”, and “Thirteen”
- Identify elements of a story: character, plot, theme, setting, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution (literary devices)
- Measure comprehension using various techniques

Drama

- A Christmas Carol, Sorry Wrong Number, Shakespearian plays/unit
- Interpret meaning through oral expression
- Improve reading fluency

Poetry

- Identify various forms (Narrative, Haiku, Cinquain, Concrete, Acrostic)
 - Students will make their own poetry booklet, which will include their original poems.
- Interpret author’s message

Thematic Trade Books

- Family Struggles
 - Book we will read throughout the year will include the following and more: Tuck Everlasting, and The Outsiders
- World Cultures
 - Books we will read throughout the year will include the following and more: Shipwrecked, and Julie of the Wolves
- Determine importance in informational reading using basic text structures of compare/contrast, problem/solution, and cause/effect
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Reading Skills:

Text Structure

- Use graphic organizer (KWL, T-chart, Venn Diagrams) to analyze literature
- Apply story mapping (plot line, book reports) to literature pieces
 - Each student will be responsible for hand in the required amount of book reports per quarter.
 - 1st Quarter – 2 Book Reports
 - 2nd Quarter- 2 Book Reports
 - 3rd Quarter- 3 Book Reports (includes 1 nonfiction book report)
 - 4th Quarter- 3 Book Reports

Reading Strategies

- Make connections between text, other reading, and the world to further understand ideas in text
- Predict, illustrate, and reflect on written pieces

Vocabulary Development

- Identify and define crucial vocabulary to the meaning of a text
- Use word forms, prefixes, suffixes, and root words to read and understand words

Literary Devices

- Identify and interpret similes, metaphors, and personifications
- Apply summarizing, sequencing, and inferring skills to literature

Word Recognition

- Apply word recognition techniques in reading
- Recognize and use root words, prefixes and suffixes in reading

Writing Topics/Genres

Descriptive

- Jenkin's Mystery

Persuasive

- Fractured Fairy Tale written by the villain's point of view

Expository/Non-fiction Writing

- Science Fair

Narrative

- Autobiography

Writing Skills

Control of Language

- Word choice, sentence fluency, and voice
- Effective leads, smooth transitions, sentence structure, 3 part paragraphing (introduction, body, conclusion)

Content/Composition

- Ideas, organization, and voice
- Writing Process- Prewriting, writing, revising, editing

Grammar/Spelling

Parts of Speech

- Demonstrate correct usage
- Review: nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs

Conventions

- Correctly use various forms of punctuation

Writing Format

- Sentence structure
- Paragraph formation
- Essay formation

Spelling

- Embedded

Listening/Speaking

Formal Speech

- Research Presentation
- Oral Non-Fiction Book Report Presentation

Informal Speech

- Think-pair-share
- Literature Role Discussion

Listening

- Oral reading teacher-student and student-student

Common Assessments:

District Policies: