

7th Grade Language Arts Syllabus

Mrs. Ennis

2017-2018

Welcome to Priest River Junior High! This syllabus will be a guide to help you understand the curriculum for seventh grade Language Arts and to prepare you for a great year at Priest River Junior High.

Course Objectives:

The objectives are to strengthen reading and writing skills. Students will practice and improve reading skills by completing reading comprehension exercises, practicing and using a variety of reading strategies, and incorporating Common Core State Standards that will help students be better prepared for high school, college, and a career.

Learning Targets:

At the end of this course, you will.....

- Be able to write an informative, argumentative, and narrative essay
- Know how to cite text evidence to support your ideas
- Understand the different aspects of a drama
- Have a strengthened academic vocabulary
- Strengthen reading comprehension skills
- Know the expectations for behavior in a classroom

Required Background:

To successfully complete this course, you must.....

- Know basic sentence structure
- Be able to find textual evidence in a piece of literature
- Have basic reading comprehension skills
- Be able to act responsibly in a classroom setting

Course Schedule: (Subject to change)

Quarter One:

Novel: The Fighting Ground (Avi)

Writing: Narrative Essay

Key Objectives: The student will be able to.....

- Apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate the novel.

- Draw on their prior experience, their interaction with other readers and writers, and the knowledge of word meaning.
- Write and use different writing process elements to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

Collection One – In this collection, you will explore what it means to face challenges fearlessly, even if it means failing in the attempt.

Key Objectives: The student will be able to.....

- Identify, analyze, and make inferences about plot in a short story and in news stories.
- Analyze the elements of a myth and to determine themes.
- Understand how the elements of form and the use of alliteration emphasize ideas and meaning in a poem.
- Identify, analyze, and draw conclusions about an author’s purpose for writing informational texts.

Quarter Two:

Collection Three – In this collection, you will explore the beauty, power, and mystery of nature.

Writing - Memoir

Key Objectives: The student will be able to.....

- Identify features of a memoir, analyze the style, and write a memoir.
- Determine the theme of a short story and analyze word choice and style.
- Analyze elements of a memoir and its structure.
- Analyze poetic form and learn how poets use figurative language to express feelings and ideas.

Quarter Three:

Novel – Student generated

Writing – Informative essay

Key Objectives: The student will be able to.....

- Apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate the novel.
- Draw on their prior experience, their interaction with other readers and writers, and the knowledge of word meaning.
- Write and use different writing process elements to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

Quarter Four:

Collection Four – in this collection, you will encounter individuals who must confront a compelling Question: How far is too far?

Writing – Argumentative essay

Collection Five – In this collection, you will take a look at our consumer culture and consider the question: How much is enough?

Key Objectives: The student will be able to.....

- Trace and evaluate an argument.
- Identify tone and evaluate the reasoning used to support a claim.
- Analyze the structure of an informational text and paraphrase central ideas and details.
- Identify and analyze
- Identify cause-and-effect patterns of organization in an informational text.
- Draw conclusions from text and graphs.
- Identify elements of science fiction and analyze the story to determine its theme.

Resources :

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt **Collections Literature book.**

Common Core Assessment Writing book

Close Reader

The Fighting Ground (Avi)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

General Rules:

Respect is the #1 rule in my classroom. Students must be respectful to their classmates, their teacher, and themselves. I believe every student deserves a fair opportunity to learn in a safe environment. Students must also come into the class ready to work, have a positive attitude, and behave responsibly. Students are to be conducting themselves in a manner that allows the teacher to teach and the student to learn. Any behavior outside of this will have consequences. Refer to the student handbook for procedures on misbehavior.

Grading Policies:

Assignments will be posted on my whiteboard every day, and students are expected to copy this down into their agenda. Any work not finished in class is homework. **Late work will not be accepted.** Students have as many days as they were absent plus one day to complete work for excused absences only. I am willing to accommodate if more time is needed.

Grades in my class can be broken up into these categories:

- General Classwork (this includes the daily entry task or opener, and any work students have time to do in class)
- Tests/Quizzes
- Essays
- I do not give out many extra credit opportunities, but I will inform students beforehand if one is available

Grading Scale:

A=90-100%

B= 80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F= 59% and below

Cut and return bottom portion. Thank you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent E-mail: _____

