

Language Arts Curriculum

Many of the Language Arts skills that have been taught in previous grades are reinforced throughout the junior high curriculum. The following concepts and objectives are introduced and/or emphasized during the school year.

Sixth Grade

Decoding and Word Study

- Derive context clues from a variety of texts

Vocabulary

- Word meanings and etymology

Comprehension

- Derive main idea and search for details when obtaining information from text and construct and organize meaning by comparing written text and inferences
- Development of paraphrasing skills

Literature

- Story structure, characterization, author's craft related to plot, mood and tone, flashback, foreshadowing, symbolism and irony.

- Genres include realistic fiction and poetry

Study Skills

- Reader's Guide
- Choose appropriate resources, use a variety of resources including electronic resources and reference books

Grammar

- Independent clause and subordinate clause
- Predicate adjective, indirect object and predicate nominative
- Compound and complex sentences
- Subject pronoun, object pronoun, demonstrative pronouns, indefinite pronouns, reflexive pronouns, interrogative pronouns, relative pronouns
- Predicate adjective, proper adjectives, demonstrative adjectives, conjunctions, and interjections

Usage

- Agreement of pronouns and antecedents
- Adjective/adverb confusion, subject/verb agreement, and unnecessary change of tense

Mechanics

- Commas with appositives and interrupters
- Semicolons
- Direct quotations

Listening

- Listen for main ideas and details along with critical thinking

Writing

- Sentence writing, combining sentences and expanding sentences
- Paragraph development, topic sentences, supporting details, order of ideas, informative and explanatory paragraph development, compare/contrast, and concluding sentences
- Narrative, persuasive, expository writings
- Business letter writing
- The writing process including revising and editing components

Seventh Grade

Decoding and Word Study

- Derive context clues from a variety of texts

Vocabulary

- Word meanings and etymology

Comprehension

- Author's viewpoint, bias and making generalizations
- Derive main idea and search for details when obtaining information from text and construct and organize meaning by comparing written text and inferences

- Developing of paraphrasing skills

Literature

- Story structure, characterization, author's craft related to plot, mood and tone, flashback, foreshadowing, symbolism and irony
- Genres include journals/diaries, short stories, science fiction, realistic fiction and poetry

Study Skills

- Reader's Guide
- Choose appropriate resources; use a variety of resources including electronic resources and reference books

Grammar

- Predicate adjective, indirect object, predicate nominative
- Complete subject, complete predicate, simple subject, simple predicate, compound subject and compound
- Compound sentences
- Demonstrative pronouns, indefinite pronouns, reflexive pronouns, interrogative pronouns, relative pronouns, predicate adjective, proper adjectives, demonstrative adjectives, conjunctions, and interjections
- Subject pronoun, object pronoun, possessive pronoun and prepositions, prepositional phrases, and objects of prepositions

Usage

- Adjective/adverb confusion, subject/verb agreement, troublesome verb pairs, and unnecessary change of tense

Mechanics

- Commas, direct quotations, colon and hyphen use

Listening

- Listen for main ideas and details along with critical thinking

Writing

- Sentence writing, combining sentences and expanding sentences
- Paragraph development, topic sentences, supporting details, order of ideas, informative and explanatory paragraph development, compare/contrast, and concluding sentences
- Narrative, persuasive, expository writings
- Poems, types of advertising, business letters
- The writing process including revising and editing components

Drama

- Performance of pantomime

Eighth Grade

Decoding and Word Study

- Derive context clues from a variety of texts

Vocabulary

- Word meanings and etymology

Comprehension

- Derive main idea and search for details when obtaining information from text and construct and organize meaning by comparing written text and inferences
- Development of paraphrasing skills

Literature

- Story structure, characterization, author's craft related to plot, mood and tone, flashback and foreshadowing, symbolism and irony

- Genres include parody and satire, short stories, realistic fiction and poetry

Study Skills

- Reader's Guide
- Choose appropriate resources, use a variety of resources including electronic resources and reference books

Grammar

- Independent clause and subordinate clause
- Predicate adjective, indirect object and predicate nominative
- Compound and complex sentences
- Subject pronoun, object pronoun

Usage

- Agreement of pronouns and antecedents
- Adjective/adverb confusion, subject/verb agreement, and unnecessary change of tense

Mechanics

- Commas with appositives and interrupters
- Semicolons
- Direct quotations

Listening

- Listen for main ideas and details along with critical thinking

Writing

- Sentence writing, combining sentences and expanding sentences
- Paragraph development, topic sentences, supporting details, and concluding sentences
- Narrative, persuasive, expository writings
- Business letter writing
- Research paper writing
- The writing process including revising and editing components

Drama

- The change and influence drama has had throughout history