



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

Heather Fox, Room 311

### COURSE OUTCOME:

#### Course Description

The state framework for sixth grade ELA has content emphasis on the following five standards: literature, informational text, writing, speaking and listening, and language. In this class, we will explore complex texts and write in a variety of modes.

#### Curriculum Standards:

#### Tennessee's English Language Arts Standards

[http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/education/attachments/std\\_eng\\_gr\\_6.pdf](http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/education/attachments/std_eng_gr_6.pdf)

### INSTRUCTION:

#### Skills Covered:

As students master the standards, they will demonstrate independence; build strong content knowledge; respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline; comprehend as well as critique; value evidence; use technology and digital media strategically and capably; and come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

#### Materials Needed

Supplies (provided by student): A 1 Inch 3 ring Binder, Pencils, 1 Subject Spiral Notebook, Notebook Paper, Sticky Notes, Highlighters (Variety of Colors), 1 three prong pocket folder

#### Resources

**School-based:** Students who check out a textbook will be held financially responsible if the book is not returned at the end of the course.

*Pearson/Prentice Hall Literature: Common Core Edition (Grade 6)*

**Library:** Students will go to the GMS School Library on a regular basis to check out books. Additionally, they will have a classroom library to use as a resource.



**Major Works to be Read:** All classes will read Bud Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curs, Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse, and a read aloud of Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson. Language Arts classes will read Knox County approved materials and parents will be notified before any novel study has begun.

**Films:** Throughout the course of study, students **may** view films, film-clips, documentaries, or educational programming directly correlated to their study. All audio-visuals will comply with Knox County guidelines.

### Religion in the Curriculum

Knox County Board policy states:

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

1. Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and
3. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.

\* If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.

### Safety Procedures

Students are to always follow all instructions given by the teacher and/or the school administration.

### ASSESSMENT EXPECTATIONS:



Students are expected to actively participate in class. Tests will be given to determine the level of proficiency that each student has achieved for each standard.

### **Grading Policy/Rubrics**

1<sup>st</sup> semester - Grades will be earned for standards (90%), and daily work (10%).

2<sup>nd</sup> semester - Grades will be earned for standards (90%), and daily work (10%).

Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time. A student's proficiency level on a particular standard is based on the standards based grading scale. Letter grades will be assigned based on the state of Tennessee grading scale:

A (93% - 100%) Exceeding

B (85% - 92%) Meeting

C (75% - 84%) Approaching

D (70% - 74%) Attempting

F (Below 70%) Insufficient Evidence

Progress reports will be issued every four and a half weeks. A final grade report will be issued at the end of each semester.

### **Explanation of Assignments & Projects**

At the teacher's discretion, homework will be assigned only if extra practice is needed on a particular concept or is not completed during class. If student does not reach proficiency on a standards quiz, they will receive remediation for extra practice on that skill. After a student has completed the remediation and studied their notes, they may retest on that skill.

### **Make-Up Work Policy/Late Work Policy**

Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time. Make up work is the responsibility of the student. You are to obtain the missing work from the make-up work bucket, complete it, and turn it in to your teacher. Assignments can be found on the makeup work bucket located near the door. Ask a neighbor first then your teacher if you have a question about the assignment.

### **Portal Post Policy**

Grades will be posted online at least once per week to provide timely communication to the student and parent/guardian regarding the student's academic performance.



## GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- **Attendance** - It is critical that each student is present and on time every day to class.
- **Classroom Policy/Procedures**
  - When the teacher raises their hand, you should stop, look, and listen. Students will also raise their hand if a question needs to be asked.
  - Get all needed materials before instruction. If you forget, borrow from a neighbor or the teacher.
  - Assignments should be copied in the agenda at the beginning of the class period.
  - If there is a visitor in class, continue to work on assignment or read your AR book.
  - Always clean your work area, desk, and floor after working.
  - Students will remain seated at their desks during class unless given permission to do otherwise.
  - Students should always be respectful of other's learning and ideas.
- **Honor Code**

"Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

  1. Copying verbatim all or part of another's written work;
  2. Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
  3. Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
  4. Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator."

## PLAGIARISM

When presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinions, even if it has been rephrased, one must properly cite the original author to avoid plagiarism (Harbrace Handbook, 15<sup>th</sup> edition). Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students found guilty of plagiarism will engage in an academic conference with parents/guardians and the teacher. Students will be required to redo the assignment within a specified time period.

## Teacher

- Office Hours/Contact Information/Email
  - Conferences can be arranged with by calling the school office at (865) 689-1430.
  - You may also contact me by email: [heather.fox@knoxschools.org](mailto:heather.fox@knoxschools.org)
  - Teacher will also communicate dates of assessments and other projects through Remind.



**Return**

I have read and understand the course syllabus for *insert the name of your course here*.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name, printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name, printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date