

6th Grade Language Arts: Course Outline and Expectations

Welcome to 6th grade language arts!

The key expectations in 6th grade language arts are:

Be on time. This means that you are in your seat by the time the bell rings. Multiple tardies in *any* classes will result in referrals and detentions.

Come prepared. Always bring your textbooks, journals, something to write with (pencil or dark pen) and your student planner.

Assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Except in the case of absence, late assignments will only be accepted one day late. After one day late, work will be received at half credit (50%). This includes journals and projects.

Student's grades are based on the following categories:

Reading Skills 38%

Writing Skills 38%

Participation 24%

Formal report cards will be sent home at the end of every trimester. These grades are for a twelve-week period. I will send out progress reports regularly through the trimester and will post grades in class to help students and parents evaluate how the student is doing. Progress reports need to be signed and returned to class. Extra credit will be available throughout the year in various forms.

Students are expected to read 30 minutes each day or a total of 150 minutes each week. Students may read any combination of materials at their reading level or read to younger siblings. Reading logs are available anytime for student use and are **due the beginning of each week**. Students will be asked to give book talks about (oral book report) on the books they are reading regularly.

Students will have weekly assignments. Students will have every other week spelling/vocabulary assignments. These are usually passed out the beginning of the week and are due Fridays for correction. Students will be tested on word definitions and spelling. Students will also have regular assignments from grammar and literature textbooks. Textbooks will be available for students to use in the classroom and will not be assigned to individual students. IF a student does not complete their work in the time period, or is absent, it is the student's responsibility to obtain and check out a book to finish the work at home.

Students are expected to show good work habits.

Work habits are daily points earned by being prompt, prepared with all supplies and assignments, on task during class and cooperative with staff and other students. Participation is worth 24% of their overall grade.

Topics to be covered in language arts are guided by the Washington State Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALR's) and will include the following

- **Write for a variety of purposes:** expository, research, persuasive, and poetry.
- **Write with expression:** using proper grammar, conventions, voice, and descriptions.
- **Read for a variety of genres:** fiction, non-fiction, historical, fantasy, mystery
- **Respond to reading material:** through journals, questions, discussions, presentations, essays, and book talks.

General Rules for the Classroom

- Display respect for others; with students, teachers, or other adults.
 - No food or drink (except plain water) is allowed in the classroom.
 - Make sure your actions contribute to an atmosphere of learning- manage your noise level and raise your hand to speak.
 - Keep language acceptable and respectful.
 - Students will not harm or disturb class turtles.
 - Use materials and equipment appropriately and responsibly.
 - Computers and technology are to be used only for *legitimate* school purposes.
- Students who choose not to comply with these expectations will receive a referral notice.

School Contact: Parents can contact me directly by phone before or after school hours, or leave a message on my voicemail (ext. 122). Email messages are also very effective and my email address is available on the Griffin School District website. If a student is falling behind and needs extra school time or assistance in order to complete assignments, I can arrange after-school sessions for most weekdays from 3:26-4:00.

Sincerely,

Emily Schall
Lynsey Kemplin
6th Grade Language Arts

****Please cut and return to teacher****

By signing below, students and parents acknowledge that they have reviewed the information in this outline and understand the expectations for students in Sixth Grade Language Arts. This outline will be worth **10 points** when returned with signatures by **9/17**.

Student Name

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Class Period _____