

7th Grade Language Arts Syllabus

Mrs. Jeffers

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

Course Schedule: (Subject to change)

Quarter One

Novel: The Fighting Ground (Avi)

Writing: Informative Essay

Key Objectives: The student will be able to

- Apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, 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 Two – In this collection, you will explore how things in life are not always how we perceive them to be.

Writing: Argumentative Essay

Key Objectives: The student will be able to

- Identify elements of a folk tale and summarize the story.
- Analyze a poem’s form, as well as use figurative language and sound devices to understand a poem’s meaning.
- Analyze the purposes of public art and techniques used to create the illusion of three-dimensionality.
- Identify and analyze how setting affects characters’ traits, motivations, and actions.
- Analyze the elements of a drama.

Quarter Three:

Collection Six – In this collection, you will consider the question: What inspires people to take action to improve their world?

Writing: Informative Essay and Personal Essay

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

- Determine central ideas and details, analyze chronological order, and analyze authors’ writings on the same topic.
- Analyze points of view in a text and compare and contrast different genres.
- Identify and analyze elements of a personal essay and determine an author’s point of view.
- Analyze a poet’s style and determine a theme.
- Analyze methods of characterization and flashback in a short story.

Quarter Four:

Novel: The Giver (Lois Lowry)

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

Writing: Informative Writing and Creative Writing (short story)

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

- Identify cause-and-effect patterns of organization in an informational text and draw conclusions from the text and graphs.
- Identify features of an author's style and make inferences using textual details and their own knowledge.
- Analyze a poem's form and identify theme and irony.
- Identify elements of science fiction and analyze a story to determine its theme.

Resources:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt **Collections** Literature book

Performance Assessment workbook

Close Reader

The Fighting Ground (Avi)

The Giver (Lois Lowry)

Policies and Procedures

General Rules:

- Students will be in their seats and ready to work when the bell rings
- Students will use the proper heading on all papers
- Students will fill out their agenda on a daily basis
- Students will use the pass in the back of their agendas to leave class
- Mutual RESPECT for all
- If you have something to say, please raise your hand

PRJH Non-Negotiable Expectations for Classroom Success

- 1. Students will be in their seat ready to work when the bell rings.**
 - Students are given 2 tardies per quarter without penalty.
 - A student’s third tardy results in 3 days of lunch detention.
 - Each subsequent tardy results in an additional day of lunch detention.

- 2. The proper heading will be present on all papers.**
 - First and last name
 - Period
 - Assignment name
 - Date

- 3. Students must use their agenda to leave class.**

- 4. Students will be:**
 - Safe
 - Kind
 - Respectful
 - Responsible

Grading Policies:

We do **NOT** accept late assignments!

Grading Scale:

A=90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=69-69%

F=59% and below

Contact Information

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Please sign and return the bottom portion. Cut at the dotted line

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent email: _____

