

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Syllabus

Mrs. Jeffers

2018-2019

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 and writing strategies, and incorporating 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**

Writing: Argumentative Essay

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

- 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: Informative 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:**

Novel: *The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen

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.

Writing: Argumentative Essay

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

- Write and use different writing process elements to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

#### **Quarter Four:**

Novel: *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt

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.

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

Writing: Personal Narrative

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 and compare and contrast different genres.
- Analyze elements of a personal essay.
- Analyze the purpose of a documentary and understand the features used in it.

#### **Resources:**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt **Collections** Literature book

Performance Assessment workbook

Close Reader

The Devil's Arithmetic (Jane Yolen)

The Wednesday Wars (Gary D. Schmidt)

## **Policies and Procedures**

#### **General Rules:**

- Students will be in their seats and ready to work when the bell rings
- Students will be prepared for class (Have all your materials and assignments)
- Students will be respectful of other people's belongings. Do not touch or move anything without the owner's permission.
- 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 their agendas to leave class
- Mutual RESPECT for all
- If you have something to say, please raise your hand
- Absolutely NO cell phones allowed in class
- No eating or drinking in class except Advisory. You may bring water bottles (water only)

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

