

**Department:** English

**Course Name:** Reading 6

**Course Description:**

The primary goal in the sixth grade reading program is to cultivate a love and appreciation of reading. Independently seeking out thought-provoking books that provide pleasure and inspire imagination can empower students in all aspects of life. Reading opens doors to all that is possible in the world of learning, whether it be learning about oneself or the world. It also nurtures a culture that promotes creative and critical thought. The sixth grade reading program encourages students to develop life-long reading habits. Students build their reading and speaking vocabularies while engaging with various authors and genres; develop critical thinking skills when analyzing different types of texts; interpret texts through writing and discussion; analyze elements of the short story, novel, play, and poetry; and learn techniques for reading non-fiction materials, all of which will help them to become effective students and sophisticated thinkers. Throughout the year, students choose, read and respond to books independently, thereby enhancing comprehension and enjoyment on their own reading levels.

**Content:**

Vocabulary Study

Accelerated Reader

Interpretive Book Discussions/Whole Class and Small Groups

Written Response to Literature

Literary Terminology

Text Annotation

Civil Rights through Literature

Mythology through Modern Literature

Themed Readings (Survival, Coming of Age)

Literature Circles

**Skills:**

Identify plot elements

Identify story elements

Analyze character development

Comprehend stories using visualization

Analyze author purpose

Recognize genre types

Identify Figurative Language and Literary terminology

Recognize cause/effect relationships in a text

Annotate text

Make connections within and among literary works

Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of the piece.

Analyze/evaluate how the structure of a text contributes to its meaning as a whole.

Demonstrate knowledge that reflects a variety of genres of major periods, cultures and eras of literature.

Respond appropriately to informal class discussion/question answer sessions

Express an understanding and analysis of literature through oral presentations

Develop oral presentation skills (posture, volume, pace, articulation, eye contact) for a variety of rhetorical modes

Read orally with fluency and expression

Use presentation technology  
Articulate and communicate complex ideas through discussion.

**Text and Materials:**

Shostak, Jerome, Vocabulary Workshop Level A (Sadlier-Oxford, 2005)  
Rowling, J.K., Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (Scholastic, Inc. 1997)  
Kraft, Jerry, New Kid (Harper Collins, 2019)  
O'Dell, Scott, Island of the Blue Dolphin (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1960)  
Park, Linda Sue, A Long Walk to Water (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010)  
Rowling, J.K., The Ickabog (Scholastic, 2020)  
Gratz, Alan, Ground Zero (Scholastic, 2021)  
Alexander, Kwame, The Crossover (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014)  
Riordan, Rick, Percy Jackson and the Olympians: Lightning Thief: The Graphic Novel (Hyperion, 2005)  
Riordan, Rick, The Lightning Thief (Hyperion, 2010)  
Nielsen, Jennifer, Mark of the Thief (Praetor War), (Scholastic, 2015)  
The Accelerated Reader Computerized Reading Management System  
Various poems and short stories  
Various additional myth and hero stories  
Various picture books

**Methods of Instruction:**

Lecture  
Independent Reading  
Read Aloud/Whole Class Reading  
Modeling  
Literature Circle Grouping  
Interactive Instruction: Discussion, Brainstorming, Debates, Peer Partner Learning  
Independent Word Study  
iPad (various apps)

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Tests/Quizzes  
Projects  
Journals  
Written Response  
Participation (discussion)  
Oral Presentations  
Homework  
Classwork