

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 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
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)
Alexander, Kwame, Black Star (Little Brown Books for Young Readers. 2024)
O'Dell, Scott, Island of the Blue Dolphin (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1960)
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