

## **Language Arts – Grade 6 – Northern Middle School - 2019-2020**

### **Course Description**

Students will study the basic elements of literature - setting, plot, characterization, climax, tone, mood, theme, figurative language, and symbolism. Students will demonstrate higher level thinking skills as they draw inferences, compare, analyze, cite evidence and make connections with the various fiction and nonfiction texts. They will analyze literature through class discussion and through various written formats. Guilford County Schools utilizes *The American Reading Company Literacy Lab* curriculum.

Students will be reading, writing and speaking everyday in class. They will respond to journal entry prompts, essay questions, graphic organizers, and elements of a story. Our approach to Literacy focuses on students growing in every area of English literacy.

### **Reading Logs**

Students are required to read for 30 minutes every night and complete the reading log. The reading logs may vary from week to week. Parents please monitor and sign the nightly reading assignments. Reading logs are due (at the beginning of class) every Friday.

### **Homework Assignments**

Vocabulary and grammar assignments require students to study their vocabulary words and grammar on a nightly basis. Students may not retest on the vocabulary quizzes.

Other homework assignments may include book projects, grammar, vocabulary review, and current event assignments.

Students are to record all homework assignments in their planners. Failure to complete the homework will result in a 10 point deduction for every day it is late. (15 point deduction per day will be taken during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.)

### **Make-up work**

If a student is absent the day an assignment is due, the student is responsible for turning in the missed assignment at the beginning of class on the day of his or her return to school unless there are extenuating circumstances that are discussed with the teacher. A student who misses Language Arts class should see the teacher on the day he or she returns to school to collect missed assignments and class notes.

### **Notebook**

All students are to keep a Language Arts notebook. The notebook includes the following sections: literature, grammar, vocabulary, writing, and notes/assignments. Students must bring their notebook to class every day, along with pencils and paper. Students are also responsible for their Lenovo

device and may not play games on the tablet while in class. Students who do not have their materials for class will complete the class assignments at home and receive a late grade for the assignments.

**Morning Make-up Session:** Students who have not fulfilled their homework obligations or their classroom assignments may be required to report to a morning make-up session to complete the assignments. Students who disrupt the classroom environment may also be required to attend a morning make-up session.

### **Grading**

Language Arts assignments (homework, classwork, tests and quizzes) are weighted by the new grading program.

Tests 40%

Quizzes and Projects 30%

Classwork 20%

Homework 10%

*I am thrilled to be a part of your language arts experience. My goal is to inspire a love of learning as well as an appreciation and enthusiasm for reading, writing, and discourse. Students and parents, please feel free to contact me at [hesmanp@gcsnc.com](mailto:hesmanp@gcsnc.com)*

Sincerely, 

*Mrs. Hesman*

School Supplies: 3 Ring binder, notebook paper, dividers, clear plastic page protectors (25+), pencils, color pencils, pens (blue, red), index cards, Post-it notes, spiral notebook, hand sanitizer, 1 box of Tissues