

SCHOOL: Central Middle School
ADDRESS: 10 12 Hancock Street
PHONE #: (617) 984-8725

SYLLABUS

TEACHER Claire McCarthy
COURSE/GRADE LEVEL Seventh Grade Language Arts
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Write Source 2000, The Language of Literature Anthology, Various novels & videos

MAJOR TOPICS*

Composition

5 Step Writing Process
Formal & Informal Language
Various Forms of Writing
 Compare & Contrast
 Creative (e.g. poetry)
 Descriptive
 Expository
 Letter Writing
 Narrative

Literature

Vocabulary

Genres

Novels, Short Stories, Drama, Poetry

Elements of Fiction/ Short Story/ Drama

Setting
Theme
Character
Plot
Narration
Conflict
Mood
Tone

Literary Devices

Flashback, Foreshadowing, Point of View

Elements of Nonfiction

Autobiography
Biography
Speeches
Essays

Newspapers

Elements of Poetry

Figurative Language (e.g. simile, personification)

Form (e.g. ballad, haiku)

Sound Devices (e.g. alliteration, assonance)

Imagery

Conventions & Structure of English Language

Parts of Speech

Grammar

Usage

Sentence Structure

Mechanics: Capitalization, Punctuation

***ASSESSMENT TOOLS**

Portfolios

Rubrics

Peer-gradings

Teacher observations

MCAS Testing

Oral presentation Rubrics

Self-grading and evaluations

Projects

Notebooks

Interdisciplinary activities

Simulations

Role playing

Open ended questions

Co-operative learning projects

Multimedia presentations

Open note tests and quizzes

Take home tests/writing assignments

Science fair investigative projects (Interdisciplinary)

Journal/Diaries

Objective Tests/Quizzes

Exams

Essays

Research papers

Presentations

FCA'S for long essays

Attendance

Class Participation

Document Analysis

Final Exam

Homework

***See Individual Student Education Plans or 504 Plans for modification where applicable.**

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Students will be held accountable for daily homework assignments. The student handbook suggests that a child spend 30 minutes working on homework from each individual discipline. In language arts children are constantly being introduced to new concepts. Any homework given in language arts is to reinforce what has been taught, or to activate thoughts about a topic that will be taught the following day.

GRADING POLICY

In the language arts classroom the primary goals are to foster knowledge of the writing process and provide assignments that increase fluency. Students will be exposed to literature to develop oral language and literacy. Students are required to hand in homework, keep a journal, make a literary device dictionary, and participate in class discussions on a regular basis. Due to the content of the class and the expectations of the state, student writing assignments are major grades. Each marking period assignments will vary, but the same standards are to be met for tests, oral presentations, and projects.

MAKEUP PROCEDURE

Students are responsible for making up any missed work. They have two days to complete assignments after arriving back to school. Exceptions will be made for group projects, test preparation, oral presentations, and extensive writing assignments.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Field trips will be arranged based on the content of what is being taught by the seventh grade team.

***Adjustments may be made in this syllabus to meet student needs.**