

Language Arts Curriculum

First Grade

Grammar/Spelling:

- Concrete nouns
- adjectives when used with concrete nouns
- action verbs
- verbs of being: is, are, was, were
- pronouns
- compound words
- Express ideas orally in complete sentences
- Distinguish between fragments and sentences
- Arrange the words of a scrambled sentence into a grammatically correct sentence.
- Recognize and use the present, past, and future tenses of verbs
- Use singular and plural noun forms correctly in sentences
- Select the correct punctuation mark for the end of a sentence
- Recognize and form contractions
- Spell words from the designated word list
- Change the initial consonant to spell words that rhyme with a given word
- Form plurals by adding “s” or “es”
- Complete sentences by using words from a designated list
- Define words from the designated word list
- Identify antonyms and synonyms
- Use a glossary to find spelling words

Reading/Literature:

- Express ideas using an object, picture, or experience
- Tell a story with a title and at least two sentences about a picture
- Complete sentences by using words from a designated list
- Spell words from the designated word list
- Change the initial consonant to spell words that rhyme with a given word
- Define words from the designated word list
- Identify antonyms and synonyms
- Use a glossary to find spelling words

Writing:

- Express ideas orally in complete sentences
- Distinguish between fragments and sentences
- Arrange the words of a scrambled sentence into a grammatically correct sentence.

Second Grade

Grammar/Spelling:

- Parts of speech: noun, verb, adjective, adverb
- Verbs: verb tense, verbs of being
- Writing process
- Structure of the paragraph (writing in paragraph form)
- possessives and plurals

Reading/Literature:

- Phonics: vowel pairs, diphthongs, consonants, initial and final consonant sounds, consonant clusters
- double final consonants
- Fact and opinion
- monitor and clarify reading
- cause and effect
- making generalizations
- sequence of events
- author's viewpoint
- Fantasy and realism
- predicting outcomes
- story structure (beginning, middle, end)
- summarizing a story
- suffixes
- categorize and classify
- listening to stories

- Memorizing and reciting poetry
- Reading charts, diagrams, calendars, and maps
- Following a recipe
- Using the phone book
- Using an encyclopedia
- Scanning for information
- Using a glossary
- Using guide words
- Parts of a book

Writing:

- writing character sketch
- writing response-journal entry
- Writing process
- using sensory language
- adding details
- the Friendly letter
- research report
- personal narrative
- writing instructions
- an opinion paragraph
- Responding to a writing prompt
- an information paragraph

Third Grade

Grammar/Spelling:

- Articles and pronouns
- Subject and predicate
- Comma, apostrophe, and colon
- Understand and use guide words
- alphabetize to fourth letter or beyond
- Use a dictionary, glossary, encyclopedia, thesaurus, and atlas

Reading/Literature:

- Main idea and supporting detail in reading selection
- Analyze characters
- Identify setting, problem, important events, and story ending
- Identify and differentiate the characteristics of fiction, non-fiction, fantasy, realistic fiction, historical fiction, and biography
- Book reports
- Context clues to determine vocabulary meaning
- Draw conclusions and make inferences
- Summarize a story in sequence
- Draw conclusions and make inferences while reading a story

Writing:

- Writing process
- paraphrase research facts
- Topic sentence
- Concluding sentence
- Different types of writing:
 - letters

- personal narrative
- directions
- journals
- news stories
- alphabetize to fourth letter or beyond
- Memorize poetry
- Oral presentations

Fourth Grade

Grammar

- parts of speech: nouns (singular, plural, possessive, common and proper), verbs (past, present, future), pronouns (personal, subject and object, possessive, antecedents), adjectives, adverbs
- helping verbs
- sentence fragments
- run-on sentences
- subject-verb agreement
- punctuation

Reading/Literature

- author's viewpoint
- graphic organizers
- noting details
- compare/contrast
- cause/effect
- inferences/making judgments
- fact versus opinion
- following directions
- main ideas and supporting details
- themes: journeys, fantasy, heroes, and nature
- idioms
- context clues for vocabulary
- Using a dictionary

Writing

- Combining sentences
- The writing process

- Types of writing: expository, personal narratives, stories, descriptions, persuasive paragraphs, book reports, research reports

Fifth Grade

Grammar

- Sentence types: simple, compound, complex
- imperative sentences (You understood)
- Predicate nouns and adjectives
- direct objects
- abstract and concrete nouns
- Verbs: principal parts
- Proper adjectives
- coordinating conjunctions
- interjections
- subject-verb agreement
- avoiding tense shifts
- commas in a series
- avoiding could of, should of
- Pronouns: agreement with antecedents

Reading/Literature

- Genre: Book Reports (including the book report parade) – different genre each month
- the novel
- character
- plot: conflict, climax, resolution
- problem and solution
- comparison skills
- summarizing story
- main events
- setting

- theme
- imagery
- idioms
- poetry (emphasis on American poets)

Writing

- the writing process
- types of writing
 - the business letter
 - persuasive paragraphs
 - research report – inventors and their inventions (4-5 paragraphs)
 - journal writing
 - response to literature
 - creative writing
 - narrative
 - descriptive
- public speaking
- writing for an audience
- proofreading for punctuation

Sixth Grade

Grammar

- All 8 parts of speech
- sentence structure/diagraming
- predicate adjectives and nouns
- prepositional phrases (defined and diagramed)
- compound subjects and verbs
- compound sentences

Reading/Literature

- figurative language
 - metaphors
 - similes
 - personification
 - onomatopoeia
 - hyperbole
 - idioms
- character development
- setting
- plot development
- poetry
- novel
- themes
- foreshadowing
- flashback
- formal and informal language
- vocabulary: connotation and denotation

Writing

- Prewrite: establishing purpose and audience
- Prewrite: different methods of prewriting (lists, clustering, discussion, graphic organizers)
- Revision: adding details
- creative writing
- response to literature
- multi-paragraph essays: organization (4-5 paragraphs)
- Introductions and conclusions
- note taking
- the research paper
- formal and informal language
- book reports

Seventh Grade

Grammar

- sentence structure: simple, compound, and complex
- Sentence types: declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and imperative
- direct and indirect objects
- predicate adjectives and nouns
- Prepositional phrases as adjectives or adverbs
- Pronouns: personal, demonstrative, interrogative, and indefinite
- Conjunctions: coordinating and correlative
- Participles and participial phrases
- infinitives and infinitive phrases
- Appositive phrases
- Independent and subordinate clauses
- Verb tense: progressive
- revising for sentence structure

Reading/Literature

- vocabulary: connotation and denotation
- elements of story: plot, setting, character, theme
- poetry
- imagery
- figurative language
- mood
- tone
- point of view
- characterization
- irony

- symbolism
- point of view
- foreshadowing
- repetition
- Drama as literature
- Elements of drama: presentation of dialogue and stage directions
- dramatic adaptations: A Christmas Carol

Writing

- the writing process
- Prewrite: considering audience and purpose
- Revising for organization and structure
- Revising to correct misplaced modifiers
- Revising to correct double negatives
- Correcting word usage errors
- book reports: the five-paragraph essay

Eighth Grade

Grammar

- sentence structure: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex
- Sentence types: declarative, interrogative, exclamatory, and imperative
- direct and indirect objects
- predicate adjectives and nouns
- Prepositional phrases as adjectives or adverbs
- Pronouns: case (subject or object)
- Conjunctions: coordinating, correlative, and subordinating
- Participles and participial phrases
- Gerunds and gerund phrases
- infinitives and infinitive phrases
- Independent and subordinate clauses
- Verb tense: progressive
- Verbs: active and passive voice

Reading/Literature

- vocabulary: connotation and denotation
- book reports: independent reading
- elements of story: plot, setting, character, theme
- poetry
- imagery
- figurative language
- mood
- tone
- point of view
- characterization

- irony
- symbolism
- point of view
- foreshadowing
- repetition
- Shakespeare

Writing

- the writing process
- Revising to correct misplaced modifiers
- Revising to correct subject-verb agreement
- Revising for organization and structure
- Revising to correct double negatives
- Correcting word usage errors
- The five-paragraph essay