Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Intermediate School Curriculum

Department	English Language Arts	PEIMS Code	03200510	Credit	State
Course Title	English Language Arts			Course Length	1 Year
Prerequisites				Grade Level (s)	6

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Grade 6, students master previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Sixth grade students take notes during oral presentations and organize and summarize spoken messages. Students evaluate their own oral presentations. Sixth grade students read widely in classic and contemporary selections and informational texts. Students are able to understand idioms, multi-meaning words, and analogies in text. Students can distinguish denotative and connotative meanings of words and use word origins as an aid to understand historical influences on word meanings. Students use strategies to learn and recall important ideas. Students recognize literary devices such as flashback, foreshadowing, and symbolism. Sixth grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students vary sentence structure and use more complex punctuation such as hyphens, semicolons, and possessives. Sixth grade students edit their writing based on their knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students produce final, error-free pieces of written composition on a regular basis. Students search out multiple texts to complete research reports and projects. Sixth grade students evaluate the purposes and effects of film, print, and technology presentations. Students assess how language, medium, and presentation contribute to meaning.

COURSE GOALS

- Promote personal, social, occupational, and civic literacy through spoken and written communication.
- Foster responsible readers, writers, and communicators, with the desire to be lifelong learners.
- Develop reading and writing activities to encourage problem-solving skills.
- Exercise skills in gathering, synthesizing, and communicating knowledge.
- Encourage students to connect knowledge across the curriculum to build an understanding of cultural diversities and complexities of the world.
- Provide a variety of literary genres to build an understanding of the many dimensions of human experience.

PROCESS SKILLS

These comprehension skills should be taught on an ongoing basis throughout each nine weeks:

- Making inferences, such as drawing conclusions, making predictions, determining cause and effect, etc.
- Supporting responses by referring to relevant aspects of text
- Using the text's structure or progression of ideas to locate and recall information
- Recognizing and analyzing story plot, setting, and problem resolution
- Identifying the purposes of different types of texts such as to inform, influence, express, or entertain
- Determining a text's main ideas and how those ideas are supported with details
- Analyzing characters, including their traits, motivations, conflicts, points of view, relationships, and changes they undergo

21ST CENTURY THEMES

- Global Awareness
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy

21ST CENTURY LEARNING AND INNOVATION SKILLS

- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Communication and Collaboration

21ST CENTURY INFORMATION, MEDIA, AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- ICT Literacy

21ST CENTURY LIFE AND CAREER SKILLS

- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Self-Direction
- Social and Cross-Cultural Skills
- Productivity and Accountability
- Leadership and Responsibility

Year-At-A-Glance	Department	English Language Arts	PEIMS Code	03200510	Credit	State
	Course Title	English Language Arts-Grade 6 Regular and PreAP			Course Length	1 Year
	Prerequisites				Grade Level (s)	6

Area	1st Nine Weeks	2nd Nine Weeks	3rd Nine Weeks	4th Nine Weeks
Reading/ Literature	Short Stories, Nonfiction, Poetry Creating a Literary Environment Literary Terms (Focus: Author's use of diction and literary devices to create meaning) *(Tuck Everlasting or Literature Circles)* Summer Reading Activities	Drama, Poetry Novel (can extend into 3rd 9 weeks) *(A Wrinkle in Time)* Literature Circles	Short Stories, Nonfiction, (Expository, Persuasive) Poetry Req'd Novel: *(Holes)* (will extend into the 4th 9 weeks) Literature Circles	Novel: *(Holes cont'd)* Allusion Unit: Fables, Folktales, Fairy Tales, Tall Tales, Biblical Allusions, Nursery Rhymes, Drama (*Rip Van Winkle)*, Poetry Novel- Literature Circles (Reg. Only) *Treasure Island, The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe, Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*
Vocabulary	5 to 8 words per week – various sources including textbook, classroom resources, and teacher materials			
Grammar (Grammar will be taught within the context of teacher modeling, sentence imitation, student writing, and literature.)	**Parts of Speech**: All eight, w/focus on Nouns, Verbs, Prepositions, Coordinating Conjunctions **Parts of a Sentence**: Prepositional Phrases, Subjects, Predicates **Writing Effective Sentences** Simple sentences: Enhancing Simple Sentences with Prepositional and Appositive Phrases, Combining Simple Sentences to form Compound Subjects and Predicates, Sentence Imitation w/Mentor Sentences **Conventions:** Capitalization, End Punctuation, Commas, and Spelling Rules	**Parts of Speech**: All eight, w/focus on Verbs and Pronouns **Parts of a Sentence**: Subject/Verb Agreement, Sentence Patterns, Direct/Indirect Objects, Subject Complements **Writing Effective Sentences**: Identifying and Correcting Fragments and Run-on Sentences, Writing Compound/Complex Sentences, Sentence Imitation w/ Mentor Sentences **Conventions:** Continue Spelling Rules and Commas, Semi-colons, Apostrophes, and Quotation Marks	**Parts of Speech:** All eight, w/ focus on Adjectives/Adverbs **Parts of a Sentence:** Phrases- Adjective/Adverb/Prepositional Phrases **Writing Effective Sentences** Using Modifiers to Enrich Writing, Review Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences Adjectives out of order, Participial phrases, **Conventions:** Comma Splice errors, Colons	**Parts of Speech:** All eight with focus on Subordinating Conjunctions and Interjections **Parts of a Sentence**: Clauses- Dependent and Independent **Writing Effective Sentences**: **Structure:** Simple, Compound, Complex **Variety**: Beginnings, Combining and Imitating with Mentor sentences, Syntax Techniques **Conventions:** Review of Year

Year-At-A-Glance	Department	English Language Arts	PEIMS Code	03200510	Credit	State
	Course Title	English Language Arts-Grade 6 Regular and PreAP			Course Length	1 Year
	Prerequisites				Grade Level (s)	6

Writing	**Writing Focus**: Building Writing Fluency with Writer/Reader Notebooks Create an Expository Text **6-Traits Focus**: Introduce w/focus on Ideas and Organization, Connotations **Ledbetter Strategies**: Introduction to "Smiley-Face Tricks" Introduction of Figurative Language (Similes and Metaphors) **Writing Process Focus**: Brainstorming	**Writing Focus:** Continue Building Writing Fluency Create a Short Story **6-Traits Focus**: Organization and Fluency **Ledbetter Strategies**: Continue Figurative Language (Personification, Onomatopoeia), Detail (Imagery), Magic 3 (Repetition for Effect) **Writing Process Focus**: Organization	**Writing Focus**: Letter Writing (In the Voice of a Character) **6-Traits Focus**: Word Choice and Voice **Ledbetter Strategies**: Hyphenated Modifier, Expanded Moment, Character Analysis **Writing Process Focus**: Paragraph Development Prewriting, Drafting, Revising, Editing	**Writing Focus**: One-page Personal Narrative/ Memoir (Reg. only) One-page Fairy tale or Tall Tale **6-Traits Focus**: Apply All, publication **Ledbetter Strategies**: Full Circle Endings **Writing Process Focus**: Prewriting, Drafting, Revising, Editing, Publishing
Inquiry/ Research	Junior Great Books, ELA Research Project (Probe) Inquiry Circles (Mini-Research, Curricular Inquiries, Literature Circle Inquiry, and Open Inquiries)		Oral Presentation/Interpretation (Photo Story, etc.(NOT in Pre-AP))	
Listening/ Speaking	Interview, Principals of Civil Discourse, Shared Inquiry Discussion Model			Book Talk/Poetry Recitation