

7th Grade Language Arts
Springfield Local Schools
Common Course Syllabi
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Course Overview:

Middle School Language Arts is the forum for students to explore and understand the past, present, and future through literature and writing. By reading various genres of literature; such as mystery, science fiction, and historical fiction; students will broaden, relate to, and share each other's perspectives. Their voices will not only be heard through discussions about literature, but through their writing as well. Through encouragement, support, and fun, Language Arts will successfully educate and hopefully inspire our young writers and readers to become authors.

Common Core Standards in English Language Arts are made up of the following 5 strands

- Reading: Literature
- Reading: Non-Fiction
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening
- Language

*In addition to these strands, we also concentrate on reading and writing in other content area classes.

Classroom Rules:

- 1) Be seated with all materials and supplies when class begins.
- 2) Complete all assignments on time.
- 3) Listen while others are speaking.
- 4) Respect each other's opinions, space, and belongings.
- 5) See attached Technology rules for my classroom.

Grading Policy:

Language Arts	
Assignments/classwork	25 % in class, homework
Participation/preparation	5 % conferences, classroom, lit chats, reading
Tests and Assessments	70 %

Grade	Scale	Description of work
A	93-100%	Consistently demonstrates an advanced level of quality. Thorough, extensive, and complete. Shows mastery in evaluating, synthesizing, and applying standards of Language Arts.
B	85-92%	Consistently demonstrates a proficient level of quality. Characterized by analysis and application of the standards of Language Arts .
C	76-84%	Demonstrates a basic level of quality. Shows a recognition and comprehension of the standards of Language Arts . All components of the work are complete.
D	70-75%	The work is below basic with limited understanding or comprehension of Language Arts standards. Some components of the work may be incomplete or poor quality.
F	Below 69%	The work is below basic with little understanding or comprehension of Language Arts standards. Work is of poor quality or incomplete.

Late Work Policy:

Any assignment that is not turned in on time will result in points being deducted.

Regular Assignments/Assessment:

Spelling and vocabulary words will be given and assessed weekly. Students should practice these words at home.

All students should have **silent reading material** with them at all times. Students should read a minimum of 15 minutes NIGHTLY.

Students will receive a **weekly writing assignment** on a given topic with specific requirements each week.

CLASSROOM RULES FOR TECHNOLOGY

****CELL PHONES, IPODS, TABLETS, HEADPHONES, ETC.****

1. Upon entering this class, all personal technology is to be put away and NOT to be seen.
2. Ringtones must be turned off in class or on silent mode.
3. Use of personal technology will be allowed ONLY if instructed by teacher for a classroom activity.

NOTE: Disciplinary consequences for violating these classroom rules will be given.

Parent Contact

I strongly encourage you to communicate with me as much as possible. The most effective way to reach me will be through email. I check it throughout the day, and will most likely correspond within the hour. Together we can make this a positive transition for your child.

Please provide me your email, as most Fridays I will send a newsletter home discussing what we are doing. Since I have close to 100 students, it would be great if you were able to quickly send me an email—including your child's name. It will enable me to quickly add you to my contacts.
Sp_callaway@springfieldspartans.org

Please review the classroom information I have provided and return the bottom portion ONLY of this paper, including signatures. This is due by: September 5, 2014.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent email: _____

Parent phone number: _____