

F.E. Peacock Middle School
6th Grade
English/Language Arts



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Required Daily Classroom Materials

Pen/Pencil
Yellow ELA Notebook

Independent Reading Book
Charged Chromebook & Charger

Areas of Focus:

Literature: Focus on the reading and analysis of literary works such as fiction novels and short stories, poetry, drama, and art. Whole class novels, small groups, and independent reading will be explored.

Informational Text: Focus on the reading and analysis of informational texts of non-fiction and further explore researching different topics to support and explain their thinking.

Vocabulary: Focus on the acquisition and application of new and unknown words through context, Greek and Latin roots, subject matter, mood/tone, and word relationships.

Grammar: Focus on the use of punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure, as well as identifying and applying parts of speech, and other grammatical systems.

Written Expression: Focus on writing clearly and effectively in the areas of informational writing, argumentative writing, and narrative writing.

Speaking and Listening: Focus on delivering information clearly and coherently to an audience; improving listening skills to understand, support, and/or debate opposing viewpoints

Grading Breakdown

Formative Classwork (40%): Students will be given time in class to complete daily assignments. If this work is not finished by the end of the period it will be considered homework. It is recommended that during this in-class work time students ask questions and clarify their understanding with the teacher before they leave class and work independently.

Summative Assessments (45%): Assessments in Language Arts will take the form of a test, essay, project, or presentation. This work will be largely done in the classroom, and students will be given ample preparation and completion time to demonstrate their knowledge of the content being assessed.

Participation (15%): Students will be completing activities on Amplify, slideshows in the classroom, and daily activities within the classroom. Certain activities each week will be scored and entered in the gradebook on a weekly basis.

Curriculum

Amplify ELA: Our core curriculum for grades 6-8. We are excited to begin and explore these new materials with the students! This program has received near-perfect scores from Ed Reports and will engage the kids in a variety of reading and writing activities every day with appropriate scaffolds, supports, challenges, and differentiation for the diverse abilities we see in all our classrooms.

For more information:

<https://amplify.com/programs/amplify-ela/>

<https://www.edreports.org/reports/overview/amplify-ela-2016>

Novel Studies, Book Clubs, and Self-Selected Independent Reading: There will also be time for students to practice reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills on their own terms with choice novels and personalized reading notebook pages that correlate to and reinforce lessons learned from the core curriculum. As parents, we encourage you to engage in conversations with your children about the books they are choosing and the topics and content your family deems “appropriate.” We respect that families always come from a variety of backgrounds and beliefs. What your child picks to read is OK with us if it’s OK with you; not OK with us if it’s not OK with you. Our librarian, Mrs. Darling, works with ELA teachers to find “good fit books” for every student.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will not be given as a great deal of time is spent planning valuable assignments to help kids practice and grow. However, if a student would like to make revisions on a previously turned-in assignment, work may be re-submitted for consideration. If a child can learn from his or her mistakes and show growth, I believe they deserve the appropriate credit.

Late Work

Assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Missing work will incur a **0** in the grade book until it is turned in. Students are encouraged to complete and turn in missing work as soon as possible. Most late work will be accepted until the end of the current unit. We will converse with students who may need additional time for assignments. ALL assignments are posted for all classes weekly on the 6th grade Homework Tracker.

Still Need Help?

- Teacher emails are checked multiple times throughout the work day. I will respond to any messages from students or parents within 24 hours. Please ask for help or clarification when needed! I am flexible and reasonable.
- AM Tutorial happens every morning before class begins in the Art room with Mrs. Dolan starting at 7:20. PM Tutorials happen Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 3-4 PM with Mr. Falasz in room 213.
- There will also be a quiet lunch daily for students needing extra time, extra help, or just a quiet place to work and concentrate while they eat.
- Students can also schedule one on one time with me if needed during lunch or after school, depending on my own availability.