

Louisville Middle School
1200 School Street, Louisville, Ga.
STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

Teacher(s): Christy Williams

E-mail: williamsc@jefferson.k12.ga.us

Cell Phone: (706) 658-7215

Grade Level: 6th

Planning Time: 10:05-11:00am & 1:05-2:00pm

Subject: English/Language Arts

School phone number: (478)625-7664

School Website: <http://www.jefferson.k12.ga.us>

Course Description:

We are excited to have you in 6th Grade Language Arts! The Language Arts classes are literature-based and designed with an emphasis to help you improve your writing skills, critical thinking skills and communication skills through reading, writing, vocabulary, speaking activities and grammar exercises. Students will be exposed to, and will respond to, a wide variety of media including, but not limited to, novels, short stories, poetry, essays, newspaper articles, broadcast news reports, video clips and plays.

Course Texts:

The literature textbook that will be utilized as a resource is Elements of Literature: Introductory Course by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. READ180 students will utilize the READ180 rBook in conjunction with the READ180 LBook as literature and grammar resources. A textbook will not be assigned to students to take home. Textbooks will be used in class only. Students may be issued a grammar workbook for homework purposes.

EXPECTATIONS/DISCIPLINE/CONSEQUENCES:

Louisville Middle School's policies regarding conduct in the classroom will be strictly enforced. Guidelines for student behavior are listed in the LMS student agendas. **While No classroom disruptions will be tolerated**, all of the 6th grade teachers have been advised to address student behaviors in accordance with the PBIS initiative, the rules and regulations of Louisville Middle School and the Jefferson County Board of Education..

Classroom Expectations:

- Arrive on Time & Prepared for Class
- Listen Carefully & Follow Instructions
- Keep Hands, Feet, and Objects to Yourself
- Be Respectful to Others
- Always Raise your Hand for Permission to Speak
- Always Get Permission Before Leaving Your Seat
- Do the work
- Do your best!

Grading: All assignments and assessments will be based on the Georgia ELA Standards of Excellence and will be graded equally under the subheading "Standards Based Instruction" Every assignment will afford students the opportunity to improve academic performance and exceed the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards

First Unit Courses:

The first units will focus on informational texts and writing. One of the target texts we will be using is **The Devil's Arithmetic** by Jane Yolen as well as a host of other textual accounts that address the theme "Lessons from the Past". The following objectives will be explored and students will progress to a greater understanding and be able to demonstrate that ***"I can...."***

Speaking and Listening

Have productive discussions with diverse partners with different ideas while expressing their own clearly.

Interpret visual, quantitative, and oral information presented in diverse media and formats and explain how it contributes to a topic.

Reading, Informational Text

Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details and provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.

Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

Integrate information presented in different media formats as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not. Compare and contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another.

*****The teacher reserves the right to adjust the syllabus and to differentiate instruction as needed to meet the needs of students and ensure academic success.***

Writing

Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization,

Language

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.