

PETERS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

CORE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

READING

SEVENTH GRADE

For each of the sections that follow, students may be required to understand, apply, analyze, evaluate or create the particular concepts being taught.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This novel-based course meets every day all year and provides opportunities for students to develop greater competence and confidence in reading, study skills, vocabulary, and critical-thinking abilities. Novels read in this course include: *Joey Pigza Loses Control*; *Freak the Mighty*; *Pictures of Hollis Woods*; and *Shades of Gray*. Students who participate in this class will be actively involved in creating plot charts, making inferences, and applying characterization. Hands-on activities expand vocabulary skills and explore various literary genres.

STUDY SKILLS

- create flashcards for vocabulary terms
- provide graphic organizers for writing prompts
- model and facilitate appropriate note-taking techniques
- require their use of an assignment book
- organize materials in red binder
- provide guidelines for students to use when studying for a test
- model and facilitate test-taking strategies

MAJOR UNIT THEMES:

1. READING STRATEGIES

- define what a flexible reader is
- identify the types of reading strategies
- define the three types of different reading styles
- apply skimming, scanning, and study reading strategies

2. SHORTER SELECTIONS: FICTION AND NON-FICTION

- create a plot chart to organize the plot of each story
- recall specific details from the story or non-fiction piece
- define the types of genres

- choose the genre of the book or passage by applying the definitions of genre
- apply characterization
- make inferences

3. VOCABULARY

- use context clues to define or infer meaning
- identify synonyms and antonyms
- demonstrate expanded vocabulary
- analyze figurative language within the novels

4. NOVELS

- recall details
- locate basic plot details of the novel
- construct sequence of events
- identify and analyze elements of literature
- identify cause and effect relationships
- make inferences and explain rationale
- apply elements of literature to various projects
- locate examples of direct and indirect characterization
- identify the types of conflicts and locate examples within the text
- apply reading strategies to comprehend the novels

MATERIALS:

- *Joey Pigza Loses Control* by Jack Gantos
- *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick
- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Shades of Gray* by Carolyn Reeder
- *Excerpts from Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*
- “*The Mighty*”
- “*Pictures of Hollis Woods*”
- *Charles* by Shirley Jackson
- *Seventh Grade* by Gary Soto
- Coach: Workout Skills Review and Practice

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