

Back-To-School Night 2015

Mrs. Lovelace – 6th Grade Honors Narrative ELA

[Darlene.Lovelace@gpschools.org](mailto:Darlene.Lovelace@gpschools.org)

313-432-5499

All reading and writing in the Honors Narrative class is related to fiction. We will read a variety of literature including but not limited to poetry, short stories, and novels. Lessons and activities will be designed to strengthen reading comprehension, writing techniques, problem solving and creative thinking. Assignments and activities will be aligned with our district expectations and the Common Core Curriculum.

Independent Reading

Per Grading Quarter: 100 pages per week (about 15 pages per day)

One-page Independent Reading Form for each completed book

Journal entries

Monthly projects

Class Reading

Novels: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens *(*unabridged) and *Peak* (Roland Smith)

Short stories from the Jr. Great Books 6th grade selections

Our literature anthology collection:

Holt, Rinehart, Winston: *Elements of Literature Introductory Course*

Various Poetry selections from *Reading Poetry in the Middle Grades* by Paul B. Janeczko

Active reading comprehension strategies

Responses to literature reinforcing solid essay practices

Writing

Impromptu and process writing

Quarterly writing journal (one page per week)

6+1 Writing Traits Lessons

Daily Oral Language

Grammar instruction

Spelling strategies

Grading

**Students are encouraged to revise assignments for improved learning and grades.** Honors students are expected to revise assignments below a B-. Late work is accepted for 90% credit (noted with an “L” in gradebook)

Point-based Rubrics are used for ease and transparency.

Plan for your child to be reporting on an independently chosen book *approximately* once a month.

You may use the following as a general guideline. Exceptions may be made.

1. Proper reading level (not too hard, nor too easy)
2. Proper sophistication level (interesting, but content is not too mature)
3. Minimum of 100 pages in length
4. No repeats…no books you have already read
5. Avoid books that have been made into popular, recent films
6. Select books you will enjoy reading
7. Vary genres and authors (historical fiction, science fiction, realistic etc.)

Parent Support:

Please check to see the planner is used effectively, monitor regular reading/writing progress, help with long-term planning as needed, encourage revisions for improved learning and grades, and contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

I can be reached by students and parents via email: [Darlene.Lovelace@gpschools.com](mailto:Darlene.Lovelace@gpschools.com) or

Phone: 313-432-5499

Sixth Grade Honors Informational

(This class meets every other day: A/B schedule)

The reading and writing focus in this class is on non-fiction text. We will read and produce a variety of informational pieces, all non-fiction. Reading strategies will focus on the wide variety of text support often present in non-fiction materials such as tables, graphs and charts, headings and subheadings, chunking of text, inferences, cause and effect and more. Writing will focus on using evidence from the text(s) to support a thesis. Texts include selections from our literature anthology as well as online resources. Each quarter will have a different focus.

First Quarter

Informational Reading strategies/vocabulary foundations/essay writing

Second Quarter

Compare and Contrast

Third quarter

Persuasion

Fourth Quarter

Research

I recognize how fortunate I am to be a teacher at Brownell Middle School. I appreciate all the work you did to prepare your child for success – it shows! I look forward to getting to know your children and working together with you to create a successful school year.

Thank you for attending Back-To-School Night 2015!

Darlene Lovelace