

Syllabus for Mrs. Keogh
Literature
Grade Six
2010-2011

Contact Information

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Course Description

This course is designed to improve the student's reading and comprehension skills. Elements of fiction such as plot, setting, protagonist, character, theme, and conflict, are discussed throughout the year in connection with short stories and novels. Students are also exposed to poetry and poetic devices. Critical thinking and reading comprehension are key components that are applied to all literary works. Students are also expected to read a number of selected literary works outside of class for mandatory book projects. Vocabulary is emphasized throughout the year in relation to literary works.

Requirements: Literature and Language Arts, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., Junior Great Books, Series 6, 1 literature notebook or three ring binder, black/blue ink pens, pencils, art supplies, and an eraser are required. All of these items must be brought to class every day unless otherwise directed.

Benchmarks and Goals

- Students will appreciate a variety of literary works and styles.
- Students will be able to identify elements of fiction including plot, setting, character, theme, conflict, point of view, climax, suspense, tone, structure, and resolution.
- Students will understand the difference between major genres including fantasy, historical fiction, biography, autobiography, realistic fiction, and mystery.
- Students will be able to identify literary devices in prose and poetry.
- Students will understand and interpret figurative language including symbolism and irony.
- Students will read grade-level appropriate material and be able to describe and connect key ideas in the texts.
- Students will be able to critique literary works in terms of the credibility of plot, character, and other elements presented.
- Students will write cohesive paragraphs and other forms of writing to express ideas about literary works.
- Students will explore themes and other literary elements by using different organizational patterns such as comparison and contrast; organization by categories; and spatial order to demonstrate their ability to critically analyze a body of work.
- Students will write their own creative narratives and use a variety of literary devices to complete poems and short stories.
- Students will discuss in class and in small groups their understanding and the importance of literary works and present their findings to the class.
- Students will use new vocabulary to describe literary works.