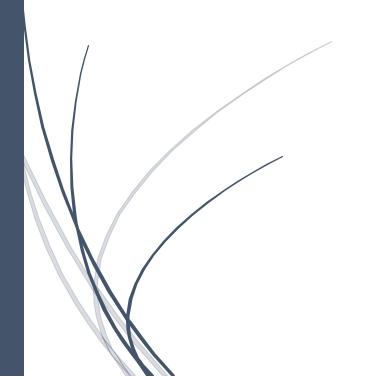
Adopted: September 2017

Language Arts Literacy

6th Grade Curriculum



Unit 1 Launching

Syllabus 1

Launching Interactive Student Notebook and Writer's Notebook

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots

Responding with RACERS

Pretesting: Achieve 3000 Lexile Levels, Link It, District Holistic Writing Assessment Project: Fiction Independent Reading Project (Due at the end of Marking Period 1)

Essential Questions: How can using the RACERS strategy improve responses to a literary question? How can understanding Greek and Latin roots assist in identifying unknown words? What close reading skills help the reader to discover the central idea of a text?	Objectives (SWBAT): -Identify the meaning of various Greek and Latin roots -Use RACERS to construct an open-ended response to text Utilize a fiction independent reading book to encourage, support, and motivate independent reading by appealing to different learning styles and offering students multiple choices when responding to booksStudents' levels will be ascertained by the use of the pre-assessments in the area of language arts, focusing on reading and writing.	Activities: -Complete activities using Greek and Latin roots from a weekly word list. -Greek and Latin roots weekly test -Set up the Interactive student notebooks and Writer's Notebooks. -Use a sample article in Achieve 3000 to implement the RACERS strategy. -Read Achieve 3000 articles to develop close reading skills such as previewing the text, developing guiding questions about the text, and answering open-ended questions. -Take Achieve 3000 Level Set test. -Take Link It test. -Take district holistic writing assessment.	Standards: RL6.1, .2, .5, .7, .8 W.6.1A, .1B, .1D,.1E SL.7.1A, .1B L.6.1A, .4B
---	--	--	--

Unit 2 Elements of Fiction

Syllabus 2

Fiction Literary Terms Fiction Text Structure Fiction Signposts

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots continued, Domain-Specific Vocabulary

G.U.M: Review of Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, and Adverbs

Simple, compound,	and complex sentences
Independent and de	ependent clauses

Essential Questions:	<u>Objectives</u>	Activities:	Standards:
How can understanding Greek and Latin roots assist in identifying anknown words? How does understanding action text structure help to develop comprehension of a text?	(SWBAT): -Identify the meaning of various Greek and Latin roots -Identify and create sentences as a combination of clauses and identify clauses as independent/dependent Write three different types of sentences, including the use of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions Identify and use all types of nouns -Identify and use all types of verbsIdentify and use all types of adjectivesStudents will identify fiction literary class termsIdentify parts of the plot pyramidIdentify fiction signposts in fiction text to aid in close reading.	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a weekly word listWeekly Greek and Latin roots testUse the <i>Strategies for Writers</i> textbook and class notes to write a variety of sentencesUse PowerPoint presentations for notes on literary fiction termsUse short stories to identify examples of literary fiction termsCreate plot pyramid poster using short storiesUtilize various fiction short stories to identify fiction signpostsAchieve 3000 -Grammar review test -Sentences and Clauses test	RL.6.1, .5 L.6.1, .3.A, .4.B

Unit 3 Realistic Fiction/Personal Narratives

Syllabus 3

Fiction Signposts (continued)

Literary Elements

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots Continued, Novel Specific Vocabulary

G.U.M: Run On Sentences and Fagments

Personal Narratives

I	Essential Questions:	<u>Objectives</u>	Activities:	Standards:
-	How does setting reveal	(SWBAT):	-Watch a Louis Sachar interview and discuss the	RL6.1,.2 .3, .4, .5, .6,.7
C	haracter?	-Utilize close reading strategies.	author.	W.6.3 A, B, C, D, E
		-Identify the meaning of various Greek	-Read and discuss an article on the juvenile justice	W.6.4,.5,.6
		and Latin roots	system.	L.6.1,.2,.3

-How does the author	-Use the following vocabulary strategies	-Use a mind map to identify fiction signposts to aid in	L.6.4.A, B, C
use literary elements to	to aid in the knowledge of unknown	close reading of the novel "Holes".	SL.6.6
invoke interest?	words: A) Use of context B) Definition	-Develop a guiding question and use a 4 corners	SLOW
my one micrest.	and/or synonyms C) Use of conjunctions	activity in conjunction with Chief Joseph's speech	
-How do people grow	to recognize relationships, knowledge of	"Words of Surrender."	
and change to adapt to	prefix, suffixes, and roots.	-Define novel vocabulary.	
difficult situations?	-Introduce background knowledge of the	-Read and discuss the novel "Holes".	
difficult situations:	author and the juvenile justice system.	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from	
-How do the defining	-Use of literary skills by reading	a weekly word list.	
elements differentiate	orally/silently to improve vocabulary and	-Weekly Greek and Latin roots test.	
between each genre of	comprehension.	-Take notes in the Interactive Student Notebooks on	
<u> </u>	-Identify author's purpose to persuade, to		
writing?		setting inference, theme, characterization, and	
W/14 1	entertain, or to inform.	conflict.	
-What can we learn	-Identify what a setting is and	-Complete activities on setting inference, theme,	
about ourselves through	components that make up a setting.	characterization, and conflict.	
our own personal	-Apply setting components to the book	-Analyze quotes from the novel.	
writing?	Holes.	-Complete comprehension questions.	
	Student will answer open-ended questions	-Watch the movie "Holes", and use a Venn diagram to	
-Why does using the	in RACERS format.	compare/contrast the movie and the book.	
writing process make	-Identify literary devices, which include	-Take novel test/quizzes throughout the novel.	
one a better writer?	theme, flashback, characterization,	-Achieve 3000	
	symbolism, theme and storylines as it	-Use PowerPoint presentations for notes on run-ons,	
	applies to reading.	fragments, and comma splices.	
	-Define characterization and how it	-Use the Strategies for Writers textbook to identify	
	applies to the character Stanley.	fragments, run-ons, and comma splices in writing.	
	-Understand the terms internal and	-Create an anchor chart with the elements of a	
	external conflicts.	personal narrative, and look for those elements while	
	-Draw inferences from the text.	reading samples.	
	-Compare and contrast book to movie.	-Run on sentence and fragment test.	
	-Read nonfiction on westward expansion	-Create t-charts in the writer's notebook to develop	
	and Chief Joseph's speech "Words of	ideas for the personal narrative.	
	Surrender."	-Story tell small moments to a partner and write them	
	-Students will analyze the Native	out in the writer's notebook.	
	American experience during westward	-Take notes on dialogue and rewrite narrative drafts	
	expansion and how it applies to civil	using dialogue.	
	rights.	- Provide handout with strong beginnings and endings	
	-Identify run ons, comma splices, and	for the Interactive Student Notebooks.	
	fragments in sentences and in writing.	-Complete a hook hunt activity.	
	-Identify elements in a personal narrative.	-Select a strong beginning/ending to write in the	
	-Brainstorm ideas for personal narratives.	writer's notebooks.	
	-Zoom in on a small moment.	-Take notes on paragraphing in the Interactive student	
	-Format dialogue.	notebooks to utilize in personal narratives.	

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

	T1 ('C / 1 ' 1 1'	D 1'4 1 1 C	
	-Identify strong beginnings and endings.	-Peer edit rough drafts.	
	-Utilize proper paragraphing.	-Author Share Day	
-5	-Show tone of the author in a personal	-Present independent reading project	
n	narrative.		
	-Use appropriate capitalization and		
p	punctuation in all writing.		
	-Realize editing includes: conferencing,		
n	making corrections in writing		
c	conventions and publishing to create a		
f	final product written, oral, or multimedia		
a	appropriate to the audience.		

Unit 4 Literary Analysis/Close Reading of Nonfiction Text

Syllabus 4

Literary Analysis Essay Nonfiction Close Reading

Annotating Text

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots

G.U.M: Pronouns

Projects: Jigsaw presentations and Nonfiction Independent reading projects.

Essential Questions:	<u>Objectives</u>	Activities:	Standards:
How can we use literary	(SWBAT):	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a	RL6.1, .2, .3, .4, .10
analysis to develop	-Identify the meaning of various Greek and	weekly word list.	RL6.2.1, .2,.3, .7, .8,
theories about a text's	Latin roots.	-Weekly Greek and Latin roots test.	.9
character development	-Develop theories about a character from	-Achieve 3000	L.6.1 A, B, C, D, E
through written	"Holes".	-Take notes on annotating text.	L.6.2 A, B
responses?	-Test theories by finding text evidence.	-Practice annotating text using short articles and stories.	L.6.3 A, B
	-Introduce the structure of a literary analysis	-Take notes on the structure of a literary analysis essay.	L.6.4.A, B, C
	essay.	-Review examples of literary analysis essays.	W.6.3 A, B, C, D, E
	-Write a claim for their theory.	-Take notes on how to develop a theory about a character.	SL.6.1. A, .2,.4, .6
	-Collect evidence to support claims.	-Select a character from "Holes" and develop a theory in	
	-Create a plan for the essay.	the writer's notebook.	
	-Learn how to paraphrase and write direct	-Use the novel, "Holes" to find text evidence for the	
	quotes.	character theories.	

- -Use appropriate capitalization and punctuation in all writing.
- -Realize editing includes: conferencing, making corrections in writing conventions and publishing to create a final product written, oral, or multimedia appropriate to the audience.
- -Identify strong beginnings and endings.
- -Closely "read" details in images.
- -Use guiding questions to look closely for details in a text.
- -Compare and contrast text based on the same topic.
- -Identify subject, object, personal, possessive, indefinite, antecedents pronouns in writing.

- -Develop a claim for character theories using notes on claims.
- -Use a graphic organizer to develop a layout for the literary analysis essay.
- -Take notes on how to paraphrase and write direct quotes in the Interactive Student Notebooks.
- -Draft an introductory and concluding paragraph using notes.
- -Write rough drafts.
- -Peer edit student work.
- -Present final copies to the class.
- -Examine images in small groups using guiding questions to focus on details.
- -Use multimedia to develop guiding questions about wolves.
- -Use guiding questions to closely read various articles about wolves.
- -Use guiding questions to compare and contrast articles on the same topic.
- -Develop a jigsaw presentation to teach articles to groups using text evidence, key details, and guiding questions.
- -Use Strategies for Writers textbook to identify subject, object, personal, possessive, indefinite, antecedents.
- -Present independent reading projects

Unit 5 Drama/Argumentative Writing

Syllabus 5

Myths and Legends Drama and Fantasy Genres Characterization Book Club Discussion Fishbowl Debate Argumentative Writing

Essential Questions:	<u>Objectives</u>	Activities:	
-Why are myths and legends important to one's culture?	(SWBAT): -Identify the meaning of various Greek and Latin roots Understand the development of	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a weekly word listWeekly Greek and Latin roots test.	Standards: RL6.1, .2, .6 W6.1, .4, .5, .6, .7, .8,
-How does the novel help a reader to gain insight into character development? -How does the ability to recognize and use the correct forms of pronouns in a sentence help an author write more effectively? -How can argumentative writing be crafted, so it motivates and influences a reaction from its audience? -Why is being able to conduct internet research effectively important?	characters during the course of a novel. -Understand background knowledge of issues presented in the novel. -Identify the theme and analyze elements of a storyline such as introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution. -Compare and contrast book to movie as well as book to poem. -Define academic and general specific words from the text. -Increase comprehension by answering questions citing evidence from the text. -Discuss heraldry symbols and their meanings and individually draw their family coat of arms. -Understand collegial rules of discussions such as sustaining focus on main ideas, having quality in responses, including textual references, demonstrating preparedness, etc. -Evaluate arguments and specific claim and judge validity of evidence. -Read and comprehend informational text proficiently. -Determine a website's credibility when conducting research. -Write arguments to support claims using valid reasoning. -Produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to audience. -Plan, revise, edit, and rewrite to strengthen writing.	-Read and discuss "Freak the Mighty". -Complete a webquest on issues presented in the novel. -Discuss what legends are and read samples. -Complete a coat of arms activity. -Complete novel test and quizzes. -Define vocabulary words and complete vocabulary sentences. -Complete an online digital notebook to track characterization, settings, theme. -Write chapter summaries. -Complete book club discussions on parts of the novel using an online book club discussion guide. -Complete a fishbowl activity after reading about the pros and cons of the use of bionic body parts in competitive sports. -Compare and contrast the book and the movie using a Venn diagram. -Achieve 3000. -Assign nonfiction independent reading project. -Take notes on the structure of an argumentative essay. -Review examples of an argumentative essay. -Take notes on finding credible websites. -Conduct internet research on an argumentative topic of the student's choosing, and take notes in a Google doc. -Develop a claim for the argumentative essay. -Write a counterargument using notes in the Interactive Student notebook. -Use a graphic organizer to develop a layout for the literary analysis essay. -Draft an introductory and concluding paragraph using notes. -Write rough drafts. -Peer edit student work. -Present finished writing.	.9, .10 SL.6.3, .4, .6 L.6.1, .2, .3, .4B, C, .4

-Publish and present writing.

Unit 6 Close Reading Speeches/Evidence Based Claims/Cause and Effect Essay

Syllabus 6

Nonfiction/Speeches

Writing Evidence Based Claims

Cause and Effect Essay

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots and Domain Specific Vocabulary

Essential Questions:	<u>Objectives</u>	Activities:	Standards:
-How can we use	(SWBAT):	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a	RL7.1, .2, .3, .4, .5,
speeches to develop	-Identify the meaning of various Greek	weekly word list.	.7, .9
evidence based claims?	and Latin roots.	-Weekly Greek and Latin roots test.	W.6.2.A, .B, .C, .D,
	-Develop background knowledge of Steve	-Achieve 3000	.E, .F
-How do authors show	Jobs.	-Watch and discuss a biography video on Steve Jobs.	L.6.1, .2, .3, .4B, .C,
cause and effect	-Read and annotate a speech.	-Read and annotate Steve Job's Stanford University	.6
relationships?	-Develop text based questions about the	commencement speech.	SL.6.3, .4, .6
	speech.	-Develop text based questions about Steve Job's Stanford	
	-Develop an evidence based claim based	University commencement speech.	
	on a speech.	-Use a graphic organizer to develop evidence based claims	
	-Develop a global claim based on a	on parts of Steve Job's Stanford University commencement	
	speech.	speech.	
	-Determine a website's credibility when	-Use the evidence based claims to develop one global claim	
	conducting research.	about Steve Job's speech.	
	-Utilize research to support claims using	-Take notes on the structure of a cause/effect essay.	
	valid reasoning.	-Review examples of a cause and effect essay.	
	-Produce clear and coherent writing	,	
	appropriate to audience.		

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

-Plan, revise, edit, and rewrite to strengthen writing. -Use relevant information from multiple sources, avoiding plagiarism by paraphrasing or quoting. -Utilize transitions effectively. -Publish and present writing.	-Conduct research on a cause/effect topic of the student's choosing, and take notes in a Google docDevelop a claim for the cause/effect essayUse a graphic organizer to develop a layout for the cause/effect essayDraft an introductory and concluding paragraph using notesWrite rough draftsPeer edit student workPresent finished writing.	
---	--	--

Unit 7 Nonfiction Text

Syllabus 7

Nonfiction Text Structure Nonfiction Signposts

Nonfiction Summary Writing

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots, Domain Specific Vocabulary

Essential Questions:	Objectives	Activities:	Standards:
-How does knowing the	(SWBAT):	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a	RI.6.1, .2, .3, .4, .5, .6,
nonfiction text structure	-Identify the meaning of various Greek	weekly word list.	.7, .10
help us making meaning	and Latin roots.	-Weekly Greek and Latin roots test.	W.6.10
of nonfiction text?	-Identify nonfiction text features.	-Achieve 3000	SL.6.6
	-Identify the five types of nonfiction text	-Nonfiction text features hunt.	L.6.1, .2, .3, .4.B
-How does being able to	structures.	-Take notes on nonfiction text structure, and identify them	
identify text structure	-Identify the three big questions when	using various nonfiction articles.	
help comprehend	closely reading nonfiction text.	-Use videos and nonfiction articles to identify the	
nonfiction text?	-Identify the nonfiction signposts when	nonfiction signposts and the three big questions.	
	closely reading nonfiction text.	-Present independent reading projects.	
-How can utilizing	-Utilize different strategies to summarize	-Read and summarize various nonfiction text using the	
nonfiction signposts help	nonfiction text.	Somebody Wanted But So and getting the gist strategies.	
the reader closely read			
nonfiction text?			
-What is the best way to			
summarize information?			

Unit 8 Standardized Testing

Syllabus 8

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots and Domain-Specific Vocabulary

Timed Essay Practice Strategy Review

Essential Questions:	<u>Objectives</u>	Activities:	Standards:
Are the sixth graders	(SWBAT):	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a	
prepared to succeed on	-Identify the meaning of various Greek	weekly word list.	RL6.2.1, .2,.3, .7, .8,
the standardized tests?	and Latin roots.	-Weekly Greek and Latin roots test.	.9
	-Read fiction and nonfiction selections	-Achieve 3000	RL6.1, .2, .3, .4, .5, .6,
	for understanding.	-Review test taking strategies.	.7, .10
	-Analyze language use in question.	-Take timed tests in both reading and writing.	W.6.1A, .B, .C .D, .E,
	Example-terminology	-Review lessons on sections of writing: introduction, body,	.2A, .B, .C, .D, .E, .F,
	-Paraphrase question to know what	conclusion, topic sentences, detail sentences, vocabulary,	.3A, .B, .C, .D, .E
	exactly is being asked.	transitions, varied sentence structure, compositional risks.	SL.6.1, .6
	-Answer in RACERS format in an open-	-Use different types of descriptions including descriptive	L.6.1, .2, .3, .4.A,
	ended response.	verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases used as	.B,.5.A, .B, .6
	-Read and analyze model examples of	modifiers.	
	PARCC tasks.	-Achieve 3000 activities	
	-Discuss scores and the rationale behind	-Link It activities	
	them.	-Revise and edit writing by students during timed tests and	
	-Practice writing using PARCC prompts	by class after practice session is complete.	
	in timed environments and revise, edit,	T	
	and score composition to better		
	understand grading requirements and		
	standards.		

Unit 9 Autobiography/Research Paper

Syllabus 9

Autobiography

Vocabulary: Greek and Latin Roots and Novel Specific Vocabulary

Ancient Civilization Research Paper

Poetry

Poetry					
Project: Independent Reading Project.					
Essential Questions:	Objectives	Activities:	Standards:		
-Why is education	(SWBAT):	-Continue activities using Greek and Latin roots from a	RL.6.1, .2, .10		
important?	- Identify the meaning of various Greek	weekly word list.	RL6.1, .2, .34, .6 .7		
-How can young people change the world?	and Latin roots.	-Weekly Greek and Latin roots test.	SL.6.1, .2, .4, .5, .6		
	-Write informative/	-Achieve 3000	W.6.2.A, .B, .C, .D,		
	explanatory texts to examine a	- Complete activities to activate background knowledge of	.E, .F, .3, .4, .5, .6, .7		
7771	topic and convey ideas and	Malala Yousafzai including watching her United Nations			
-What are our basic	information by selecting,	speech and interview with John Stewart.			
human rights?	organizing, and analyzing	-Provide background information about Pakistan, including			
How can learning about	relevant content.	history of the country.			
How can learning about ancient times help influence the future?	-Produce clear and	-Read and discuss Iam Malala Young Readers Edition.			
	coherent writing in which the	-Define vocabulary words from the novel using context clues and reference materials.			
	development, organization,	-Participate in a "table tennis" talk activity with a partner.			
-How can one utilize life	and style are appropriate to	-Create a newscast based on a part of the book using text			
experiences as a	task, purpose, and audience.	evidence to develop a script and create a video of the			
foundation for creative	-Cite textual evidence to	newscast.			
and expressive thinking?	support analysis of what texts say explicitly as well as	-Take notes on the structure of a research paper.			
	inferences.	-Conduct research on an ancient civilization/cultural focus			
-How are the form and	-Determine a theme or	of the student's choosing, and take notes in a Google doc.			
conventions of poetry	central idea of IAm Malala.	-Use a graphic organizer to develop a layout for the			
different from other	-Determine the meaning	cause/effect essay.			
forms of writing and	of words and phrases as they	-Write rough drafts.			
reading?	are used in a text.	-Peer edit student work.			
	-Analyze how a particular	-Present finished writing.			
	chapter or scene fits into the	-Define poetry.			
	overall structure of I Am	-Define literary devices used in poetry, identify in poems			
	Malala and contributes to the	and use in own creations.			
	development of ideas.	-Read models of different types of poems including			
	-Determine an author's	narrative, lyric, free verse, cinquain, quatrain, acrostic,			
	point of view or purpose in a	haiku, limerick, etc.			
	text and explain how it is	-Read examples of poetry, analyze for meaning and structure.			
	conveyed in the text.	-Write original poetry of teacher's discretion and present to			
	- Use technology, including	class or in small groups.			
	the Internet, to produce a newscast.	cass of in small groups.			

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

	-Engage in discussions, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. -Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study. -Orally cite text evidence to defend thoughts on the text. -Introduce various poems and poets. -Read a wide variety of poetry and analyze poetry for meaning. -Students will express thoughts and ideas through discussions, writing, and illustrating. -Learn poetic terminology such as rhythm, rhyme, meter, couplet, rhyme scheme, free verse, etc. -Write poetry to communicate information, express emotions, and appreciate the art. -Edit, revise, publish, and present original poetry using technology.	-Present Independent Reading Projects.	
--	---	--	--

Grade 6

The standards define general, cross-disciplinary literacy expectations that must be met for students to be prepared to enter college and workforce training programs ready to succeed. The K-12 grade-specific standards define end-of-year expectations and a cumulative progression designed to enable students to meet college and career readiness expectations no later than the end of high school.

Students advancing through the grades are expected to meet each year's grade-specific standards, retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades, and work steadily toward meeting the more general expectations described by the standards.

Anchor Standards for Reading

Key Ideas and Details

NJSLSA.R1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

NJSLSA.R2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

NJSLSA.R3. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

Craft and Structure

NJSLSA.R4. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

NJSLSA.R5. Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

NJSLSA.R6. Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

NJSLSA.R7. Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

NJSLSA.R8. Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.

NJSLSA.R9. Analyze and reflect on how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

NJSLSA.R10. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.

Note on range and content of student reading

To become college and career ready, students must grapple with works of exceptional craft and thought whose range extends across genres, cultures, and centuries. Such works offer profound insights into the human condition and serve as models for students' own thinking and writing. Along with high-quality contemporary works, these texts should be chosen from among seminal U.S. documents, the classics of American literature, and the timeless dramas of Shakespeare. Through wide and deep reading of literature and literary nonfiction of steadily increasing sophistication, students gain a reservoir of literary and cultural knowledge, references, and images; the ability to evaluate intricate arguments; and the capacity to surmount the challenges posed by complex texts.

Grade 6

Progress Indicators for Reading Literature

Key Ideas and Details

- RL.6.1. Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- RL.6.2. Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- RL.6.3. Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.

Craft and Structure

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

- RL.6.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
- RL.6.5. Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.
- RL.6.6. Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- RL.6.7. Compare and contrast the experience of reading a story, drama, or poem to listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text, including contrasting what they "see" and "hear" when reading the text to what they perceive when they listen or watch.
- RL.6.8. (Not applicable to literature)
- RL.6.9. Compare, contrast and reflect on (e.g. practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) texts in different forms or genres (e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories) in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

RL.6.10. By the end of the year read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above, scaffolding as needed.

Grade 6

Progress Indicators for Reading Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details

RI.6.1. Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

- RI.6.2. Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- RI.6.3. Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).

Craft and Structure

- RI.6.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.
- RI.6.5. Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.
- RI.6.6. Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- RI.6.7. Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
- RI.6.8. 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.
- RI.6.9. Compare, contrast and reflect on (e.g. practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) one author's presentation of events with that of another (e.g., a memoir written by and a biography on the same person).

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

RI.6.10. By the end of the year read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.

Anchor Standards for Writing

Text Types and Purposes

NJSLSA.W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

NJSLSA.W2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

NJSLSA.W3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

Production and Distribution of Writing

NJSLSA.W4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

NJSLSA.W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

NJSLSA.W6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

NJSLSA.W7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

NJSLSA.W8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

NJSLSA.W9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Range of Writing

NJSLSA.W10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

Note on range and content in student writing

To build a foundation for college and career readiness, students need to learn to use writing as a way of offering and supporting opinions, demonstrating understanding of the subjects they are studying, and conveying real and imagined experiences and events. They learn to appreciate that a key purpose of writing is to communicate clearly to an external, sometimes unfamiliar audience, and they begin to adapt the form and content of their writing to accomplish a particular task and purpose. They develop the capacity to build knowledge on a subject through research projects and to respond analytically to literary and informational sources. To meet these goals, students must devote significant time and effort to writing, producing numerous pieces over short and extended time frames throughout the year.

Grade 6

Progress Indicators for Writing

Text Types and Purposes

- W.6.1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
 - A. Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.
 - B. Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
 - C. Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
 - D. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
 - E. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.
- W.6.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
 - A. Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information, using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension.
 - B. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
 - C. Use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
 - D. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
 - E. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
 - F. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

- W.6.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
 - A. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
 - B. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
 - C. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.
 - D. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.
 - E. Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.6.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
- W.6.5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- W.6.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single sitting.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.6.7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
- W.6.8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.
- W.6.9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
 - A. Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., "Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics").
 - B. Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., "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").

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

Range of Writing

W.6.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

NJSLSA.SL1. Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

NJSLSA.SL2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

NJSLSA.SL3. Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

NJSLSA.SL4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

NJSLSA.SL5. Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

NJSLSA.SL6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Note on range and content of student speaking and listening

To build a foundation for college and career readiness, students must have ample opportunities to take part in a variety of rich, structured conversations—as part of a whole class, in small groups, and with a partner. Being productive members of these conversations requires that students contribute accurate, relevant information; respond to and develop what others have said; make comparisons and contrasts; and analyze and synthesize a multitude of ideas in various domains.

New technologies have broadened and expanded the role that speaking and listening play in acquiring and sharing knowledge and have tightened their link to other forms of communication. Digital texts confront students with the potential for continually updated content and dynamically changing combinations of words, graphics, images, hyperlinks, and embedded video and audio.

Grade 6

Progress Indicators for Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

- SL.6.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
 - A. Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
 - B. Follow rules for collegial discussions, set specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
 - C. Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion.
 - D. Review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing.
- SL.6.2. Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.
- SL.6.3. Deconstruct a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

- SL.6.4. Present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate speaking behaviors (e.g., eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation).
- SL.6.5. Include multimedia components (e.g., graphics, images, music, sound) and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.
- SL.6.6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Anchor Standards for Language

Conventions of Standard English

NJSLSA.L1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

NJSLSA.L2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Knowledge of Language

NJSLSA.L3. Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

NJSLSA.L4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

NJSLSA.L5. Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

NJSLSA.L6. Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.

Note on range and content of student language use

To build a foundation for college and career readiness in language, students must gain control over many conventions of standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics as well as learn other ways to use language to convey meaning effectively. They must also be able to determine or clarify the meaning of grade-appropriate words encountered through listening, reading, and media use; come to appreciate that words have nonliteral meanings, shades of meaning, and relationships to other words; and expand their vocabulary in the course of studying content. The inclusion of Language standards in their own strand should not be taken as an indication that skills related to conventions, effective language use, and vocabulary are unimportant to reading, writing, speaking, and listening; indeed, they are inseparable from such contexts.

Grade 6

Progress Indicators for Language

Conventions of Standard English

- L.6.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
 - A. Ensure that pronouns are in the proper case (subjective, objective, possessive).
 - B. Use intensive pronouns (e.g., myself, ourselves).
 - C. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.
 - D. Recognize and correct vague pronouns (i.e., ones with unclear or ambiguous antecedents).
 - E. Recognize variations from standard English in their own and others' writing and speaking, and identify and use strategies to improve expression in conventional language.
- L.6.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
 - A. Use punctuation (commas, parentheses, dashes) to set off nonrestrictive/parenthetical elements.
 - B. Spell correctly.

Knowledge of Language

- L.6.3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
 - A. Vary sentence patterns for meaning (syntax), reader/listener interest, and style/voice.
 - B. Maintain consistency in style and tone.

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

- L.6.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
 - A. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
 - B. Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., audience, auditory, audible).
 - C. Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, the sauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.

Walter T. Bergen Middle School

- D. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
- L.6.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
 - A. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., personification) in context.
 - B. Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., cause/effect, part/whole, item/category) to better understand each of the words.
 - C. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., *stingy, scrimping, economical, unwasteful, thrifty*).
- L.6.6. 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.