**INSTRUCTOR:** Ms. Rhonda Jones **GRADE:**  7th **CLASS:** Reading and Language

**CURRICULUM**

Georgia is currently implementing a new standards-based curriculum called the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards or CCGPS. The CCGPS outline clear expectations for what students should know and be able to do at each grade level and in each core subject. The standards can be accessed at [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org).

Please see the attached curriculum map.

**RESOURCES**

Students are required to complete extensive reading each nine weeks on an extended text. Students are required to read more rigorous text on their lexile level. Online programs that have been purchased by the school and are available for students’ use at home are as follows:

[www.usatestprep.com](http://www.usatestprep.com)

[www.studyisland.com](http://www.studyisland.com) [www.onlineassessment.com](http://www.onlineassessment.com)

[www.coachconnected.com](http://www.coachconnected.com)

reading counts

**LEXILE LEVEL / READING COUNTS**

Students are encouraged to know their reading lexile level. The teacher will provide students with their level. Students should select reading counts books that are within their targeted lexile range; however, students are to preview the book for appropriate content. Some books do not have appropriate content. Students are to complete a computerized test on the book once they are finished reading it. Students should have acquired the following reading counts points by the end of each nine weeks:

**1st: 25 2nd: 25 3rd: 25 4th: 25**

**Special recognition and incentives will be given to those students who exceed the maximum number of points (100) for the year.**

**MATERIALS**

* Notebook paper
* Blue or Black Ink Pen
* #2 Pencils (please keep a supply of lead if you use mechanical pencils)
* 2 Black and White Composition Books

1.1/2 Inch Notebooks with 7 dividers (preferably 1.1/2)

Please bring all necessary materials daily. Please do not ask to borrow materials unless it is an extreme emergency. Habitual neglect of bringing supplies is not favorable and will result in other consequences.

**GRADING**

All selected grades will be averaged equally to determine a nine weeks average. The following grading scale will be utilized:

90 – 100 A 70 – 79 C

80 – 89 B 69 and below F

**ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES**

Pre Test Classroom Participation

Post Test Observation

Ticket Out of the Door CRCT Practices

Journal Responses Notebook Organization

Quizzes Tests

Written Essays Independent Reading

Reading Counts Points

**HOMEWORK**

Students’ daily homework assignment is to read independently for at least 30 minutes per night. Preferably, a novel should be read and documented in students’ reading journal as evidence of reading. Other modes of reading are the newspaper, magazines, internet etc. Students will be assigned written homework as needed to help

reinforce skills that students need remediation with. Homework should be taken seriously and placed in the appropriate homework box in the classroom by the students when instructed by the teacher.

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

1. Keep your hands, feet, and other objects to yourself

2. Respect yourself and others at all times (adults and students)

3. Follow directions the 1st time

4. Complete all assignments and tasks (using inside voices)

5. Be mindful of your business

6. Adhere to the dress code

7. Be in class on time and remain in class

Parents will be notified of students’ behavior. Classroom disruptions will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Inappropriate behavior will be dealt with immediately. Students will be rewarded for good behavior periodically by participating in discipline free celebrations that will be held at the school and classroom celebrations.

**HELP ME MEET THE STANDARDS**

Students will be expected to meet standards on daily tasks. 80% or above is meeting standards. Students should be able to verbalize what standard they worked on in class, what was learned, and if they met the standard. Students should use the HELP ME MEET THE STANDARDS box located in the back of the classroom if they did not meet the standard on an assignment or if they are simply confused about a task.

**MAKEUP WORK**

School attendance is very important. Students are encouraged not to miss days; however, in case of an emergency, missed assignments should be completed within three days after the absentee. Students who are absent are responsible for missing assignments.

**NOTEBOOK**

Students are required to keep daily assignments in a notebook that will be kept in class each day. Students may take the notebook home with special permission from the teacher; otherwise, it should be kept in class each day to ensure that students have the work that is needed to complete each daily task. The notebook will have 7 tabs to include the following: **(subject to change)**

**Tab #1: Syllabus / Standards**

**Tab #2: Ticket In / Opening**

**Tab #3: Handouts / Work Session**

**Tab #4: Ticket Out / Closing**

**Tab #5: Homework / Assessments**

**Tab #6: Vocabulary**

**Tab #7: References**

**RITUALS and ROUTINES**

Students will receive a copy of classroom rituals and routines on the first day of instruction. Please review the r and r’s with your child on that day and stress the importance of your child following rituals and routines to ensure that we have a positive learning environment and to safeguard instructional time. R and R’s are important to ensure that we have **Time on Task**.

**CLASSROOM STRUCTURE**

Upon entering class, a typical day in the ELA class is as follows:

**Opening: Ticket In**

**Students are explicitly taught a focus standard for the day. Teacher reviews essential question, learning target, I Can statement (standard) or models.**

**Work Session:**

**Students complete a daily task on today’s standard using the following strategies:**

**Independently, Group, Paired, Read Aloud Think Aloud, Read Write Share, Writing Conferencing, Peer Editing, Guided practice, Computer program, Journal writing, and Independent reading.**

**Closing:**

**Students demonstrate evidence of learning using one of the following methods: sharing a writing product, completing a ticket out the door, review standard, review I Can statements, review and assign new homework, and continue independent reading.**

**Units to be Studied:**

**Unit 1:**

**Reading**

**Primary Focus: Literary Text**

**Writing Focus: Informational/Explanatory**

**Unit2:**

**Reading**

**Primary Focus: Informational Text**

**Writing Focus: Argumentative**

**Unit 3:**

**Reading**

**Primary Focus: Literary Text**

**Writing Focus: Argumentative**

**Unit 4:**

**Reading**

**Primary Focus: Informational Text**

**Writing Focus: Informational/Explanatory**

**THANK YOU**

Thank-you for allowing me to teach your child. Please sign below to acknowledge that you have read and discussed this syllabus with your child.

**Parent’s Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**