

# PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS FOR MASTERY

## 6TH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### Reading:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at mastery level in reading:</p> <p>support analysis of literary and informational text with specific evidence and objective inferences; summarize, determine central ideas and describe plot development and characters' response;</p> <p>determine the figurative and connotative meanings and analyze how words and text structure contribute to tone and development of theme, setting, plot and point of view in literary and informational text;</p> <p>compare and contrast one author's presentation across genres and media formats in literary and informational text;</p> <p>read and comprehend literary and informational text in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.</p>

### Writing:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at mastery level in writing:</p> <p>develop argumentative, informative/ explanatory texts that support claims, examine and convey ideas and information and use coherent and relevant development; write narratives that possess a variety of appropriate transitions and details using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to convey experiences;</p> <p>utilizing the writing process and collaboration, produce, strengthen and publish in one sitting an audience-appropriate writing that is clear and organized and conveys appropriate style;</p> <p>conduct and refine research that encourages analysis, evaluation and reflection using multiple, credible sources to avoid plagiarism and use a basic bibliographic format;</p> <p>write over extended time frames for research-based projects and shorter time frames for specific tasks, purposes and audiences.</p>

### Speaking and Listening:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at mastery level in speaking and listening:</p> <p>come prepared to a collaborative discussion and draw from information read or studied to engage in discussions of information presented in diverse formats, posing and responding to questions, referring to evidence, distinguishing valid claims, using reflection and paraphrasing to understand multiple perspectives;</p> <p>speaking in task appropriate language, clearly present logically sequenced, relevant contributions using visual and multimedia components to clarify.</p>

### Language:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at mastery level in language:</p> <p>use intensive pronouns and proper case, correct non-standard pronoun usage, recognize vague pronouns and improve expression; and use commas, parentheses and dashes to set off nonrestrictive / parenthetical elements;</p> <p>vary sentence patterns for meaning, interest and style while maintaining consistency in tone and style;</p> <p>use context clues, affixes and/or roots to decipher meaning, consulting print and digital references, demonstrating understanding of figures of speech, relationships between words, denotation and the nuances of connotation.</p>

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## 6TH GRADE MATHEMATICS

### Expressions and Equations:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at the mastery level in mathematics:</p> <p>extend reasoning from numerical to algebraic expressions, identify and simplify equivalent expressions and communicate meaning using appropriate mathematical vocabulary;</p> <p>use algebraic equations and inequalities to solve real-world problems and understand domains and meanings of variables in different contexts;</p> <p>analyze relationships between dependent and independent variables, state the meaning of variables, write applicable equations, and analyze using graphs and tables.</p>

### Geometry:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at the mastery level in mathematics:</p> <p>create representations of three-dimensional geometric figures while solving real-world and mathematical problems involving surface area and volume.</p>

### Mathematical Practices:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

### Ratios & Proportional Relationships:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at the mastery level in mathematics:</p> <p>Sixth grade students at the mastery level in mathematics:</p> <p>state the meaning of ratio concepts, use ratio reasoning and rates to solve problems.</p>

### The Number System:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at the mastery level in mathematics:</p> <p>model and solve word problems requiring division of fractions by fractions and interpret the quotient in the context of the situation;</p> <p>perform all operations (including the distributive property) fluently with decimals and whole numbers, identify least common multiple and greatest common factor;</p> <p>make sense of quantities and relationships among rational numbers and absolute values and use graphs to solve real-world problems and discern patterns.</p>

### Statistics and Probability:

Performance Descriptors
Mastery
<p>Sixth grade students at the mastery level in mathematics:</p> <p>recognize that statistical questions include variability in answers;</p> <p>create graphical representations of data and reason abstractly and quantitatively about statistical distributions.</p>



### Text-dependent Questions:

- Can only be answered with evidence from the text.
- Can be literal (checking for understanding) but must also involve analysis, synthesis, evaluation.
- Focus on word, sentence, and paragraph, as well as larger ideas, themes, or events.
- Focus on difficult portions of text in order to enhance reading proficiency.
- Can also include prompts for writing and discussion questions.

### Literacy Shifts in Mathematics:

1. Focus: Focus strongly where the Standards focus.
2. Coherence: Think across grades, and link to major topics within grades.
3. Rigor: In major topics pursue conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and application with equal intensity.

### Literacy Shifts in All Content Areas:

1. Regular practice with complex text and its academic language.
2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational.
3. Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction.