

St. Clement's School
Course Outline
Sixth Grade Reading
Fall Semester

This course outline is a general guide to familiarize students and parents with an overview of the course. It is an approximation of the content and objectives of the course for the fall semester. The rate of progress may vary depending on the learning pace that the students can accomplish through the semester.

- I. Characters and quests
 - A. Content
 - 1. Characters
 - a. "Mr. Tumnus"
 - b. "Harriet Tubman"
 - 2. Quests
 - a. "The Smallest Dragonboy"
 - b. Selection from Sounder
 - c. "Jody's Discovery"
 - B. Story elements
 - 1. Characterization
 - 2. Conflict
 - C. Writing focus
 - 1. Personal narrative
 - 2. Descriptive writing
 - D. Objectives
 - 1. Monitor their own reading
 - 2. Explore elements of reading process
 - 3. Make inferences, draw conclusions, predict outcomes
 - 4. Evaluate characters and recognize methods of character development
 - 5. Compare and contrast Realism and Fantasy
 - 6. Order events chronologically
 - 7. Recognize descriptive details
 - 8. Utilize context clues to arrive at word meaning
 - 9. To recognize and understand dialect
 - 10. Interpret metaphors and similes
 - 11. To write reflectively, critically and creatively about sections
 - 12. Build vocabulary
- II. Drama
 - A. Content
 - 1. "The Monsters are Due on Maple Street"
 - 2. "The Secret Garden"
 - B. Guidelines and strategies for reading drama
 - 1. Elements of drama
 - 2. Play organization and structure

- C. Literary elements
 - 1. Characterization
 - 2. Theme
 - 3. Conflict
 - 4. Foreshadowing
 - 5. Suspense
- D. Writing Focus
 - 1. Write critically about a selection
 - 2. Write a scene
- E. Objectives
 - 1. Monitor own reading
 - 2. Compare and contrast the play with other forms of fiction
 - 3. Recognize major events
 - 4. Recognize cause and effect
 - 5. Mark inferences, draw conclusions, and predict outcome
 - 6. Interpret meaning and identify theme
 - 7. Identify a narrative sequence
 - 8. Recognize the conflict in a play
 - 9. Recognize and appreciate descriptive details
 - 10. Appreciate dialogue
 - 11. Recognize and appreciate foreshadowing and suspense
 - 12. Compare words using semantic chart
- III. Novel
 - A. Content
 - 1. Fall, *The Homeless Bird* by Gloria Whelan
 - 2. Spring, *Crispin The Cross of Lead*, by Avi
 - B. Objectives
 - 1. To identify and analyze the elements of a novel: character, setting, plot, theme, point of view
 - 2. To recognize cause and effect
 - 3. Make inferences, draw conclusions, predict outcomes
 - 4. To respond to the characters, events, and ideas orally and in writing
 - 5. To distinguish between fact and opinion
 - 6. To explore persuasive writing
- IV. Book reports
 - A. Two per semester
 - 1. First six weeks
 - 2. Second six weeks
 - 3. Fourth six weeks
 - 4. Fifth six weeks
 - B. Details
 - 1. Sign up first week of six weeks with title, author, genra
 - 2. Format provided at sign up time
 - 3. Due Friday before the last week of the six weeks
- V. Contracts and homework
 - A. Contracts

1. Students receive Friday
2. Outline selection and vocabulary for coming week
3. Give due dates

B. Homework

1. Contract work
 - a. Vocabulary usually due Tuesday
 - b. Comprehension usually due Thursday
 - c. Test usually Friday
 - d. Any changes will be announced in class
2. Criteria
 - a. All work done in complete sentences
 - b. Exception, vocabulary definitions may be done in list form
 - c. Work must be on standard looseleaf paper with complete heading unless otherwise specified

VI. Required materials

- A. Covered textbook
- B. Journal (style- your choice)
- C. One hard cover three ring binder
- D. One package of tab dividers (Vocabulary, Class Notes/Work, Contracts/Homework, Handouts)
- E. Loose leaf notebook paper
- F. Pens

VII. Extra Credit

- A. Reading in addition to book report choice
 1. Short write up
 2. Two per six weeks allowed
 3. Each given weight of one and averaged into overall grade
- B. Dragons
 1. Two minutes quality class presentation
 - a. Myths, tales, legends
 - b. Dragons in history
 - c. What is a dragon
 - d. Eastern, western dragons
 - e. Types of dragons
 - f. Found or original poem
 - g. Stories – retold or original
 - h. Pictures, paintings, drawings, diagrams
 - i. Endless possibilities – check with teacher
 2. Resources
 - a. Classroom resources
 - b. Internet resources
 - c. Library
 3. Credit
 - a. 5 points applied to one weekly grade
 - b. Based on “quality” dragon work
 - i. Report in your own words

- ii. Do not repeat other students topics without new facts and materials
- iii. Art and written work must be display quality

VIII. Grading

A. Weight of one

- 1. Homework
- 2. Classwork
- 3. Journal
- 4. Notebook
- 5. Additional reading write up

B. Weight of two

- 1. Tests
- 2. Book reports

C. Late work

- 1. Accepted on next day only; no exceptions
- 2. 10 point deduction
- 3. Any assignment not turned in is valued at 0%

D. Failed assignment

- 1. Copied
- 2. Sent home for parent signature next day
- 3. Abnormalities will result in a parent conference

IX. Make up work

A. Tests

- 1. Announced the week before
- 2. Tests to be taken day of return

B. Homework

- 1. Day of return for planned absences
- 2. Equal number of days as absence for illness or unplanned absence