

Language Arts

At the end of the school year, students will be able to...

GOAL 1 Reading

Read with understanding and fluency.

STANDARD A

Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.

- ✧ Understand word relationships and meanings.
- ✧ Read, identify, and understand vocabulary words in context.
- ✧ Identify and interpret figurative language (metaphors, similes, analogies, idioms, etc.).
- ✧ Use a variety of resources to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words.
- ✧ Recognize specialized vocabulary/terminology (non-fiction-science, dialect, Shakespearean, etc.).

STANDARD B

Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.

- ✧ Identify genres and understand the purpose for reading.
- ✧ Connect and clarify main ideas and concepts.
- ✧ Identify main story elements; character, setting, plot, point of view, theme, and author's style in a variety of texts.
- ✧ Interpret text independently and collaboratively.
- ✧ Demonstrate understanding of structure through the use of graphic organizers and outlines (mapping, time lines, Venn Diagrams).
- ✧ Apply self-monitoring and self-correcting strategies to clarify understanding while reading.
- ✧ Select and read books for recreation.
- ✧ Develop creative interpretations of reading.

STANDARD C

Comprehend a broad range of reading materials.

- ✧ Respond to questions that reflect higher level thinking skills (analyzing, synthesizing, inferring, and evaluating).
- ✧ Compare the content and organization of various selections.
- ✧ Compare, contrast, synthesize, and summarize story elements found in various reading selections.
- ✧ Recognize how media and life experiences influence a reader's point of view.
- ✧ Recognize how illustrations reflect cultural styles of art and enhance meaning.
- ✧ Interpret graphic materials (graphs, maps, and visual aids).
- ✧ Recognize and evaluate forms of writing (expository, persuasive, narrative).

GOAL 2 Literature

Read and understand literature of various societies, eras, and ideas.

STANDARD A

Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.

- ✧ Read and respond to a wide range of fiction and non-fiction works.
- ✧ Understand and use literary terms and techniques (foreshadowing, metaphor, flashbacks, dialogue).
- ✧ Identify literary elements (character, plot, setting, theme, mood, tone, point of view) in a variety of genre and tell how they affect the work.
- ✧ Compare the works of various authors from different times and cultures.
- ✧ Compare and contrast the literary elements of a variety of works.
- ✧ Identify characteristics and authors associated with various literary forms (short stories, novels, fables, biographies, poetry, science fiction).
- ✧ Compare characteristics and elements of various literary genre.

STANDARD B

Read and interpret a variety of literary works.

- ✧ Interpret and evaluate written texts.
- ✧ Connect literary selections to historical context and to real life situations.
- ✧ Respond to literature from a variety of cultures, time periods and genres.
- ✧ Distinguish between significant and minor details.
- ✧ Read and interpret a wide range of non-fiction (books, newspapers, magazines).
- ✧ Support opinion by citing examples from the text.
- ✧ Engage in literary discussions.

GOAL 3 Writing

Write to communicate a variety of purposes.

STANDARD A

Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and structure.

- ✧ Use appropriate standard forms in punctuation, grammar, usage and spelling.
- ✧ Identify the eight parts of speech and recognize their function within a sentence.
- ✧ Write complete, varied and correct sentences.
- ✧ Use transition words and phrases within and between paragraphs.
- ✧ Develop multi-paragraph narrative, expository and persuasive compositions that include an introduction, first and second level support and a conclusion.
- ✧ Revise one's own work to improve content.

STANDARD B Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes.

- ✧ Use writing process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing and publishing to produce paragraphs and essays.
- ✧ Choose and utilize an organizational structure appropriate to audience and context.
- ✧ Revise and edit for conventions and to maintain a consistent tone and voice.
- ✧ Use figurative language in writing.
- ✧ Write in a variety of genre using appropriate transitions. Accurately citing sources and using available technology.

STANDARD C Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.

- ✧ Compose expository and persuasive writing.
- ✧ Compose narrative and creative works.
- ✧ Use technology to design, produce and present compositions and multimedia works.

GOAL 4 Speech & Listening Listen and speak effectively in a variety of situations.

STANDARD A Listen effectively in formal and informal situations.

- ✧ Focus attention on speaker and record appropriate notes.
- ✧ Differentiate between formal and informal purposes for listening.
- ✧ Distinguish between facts and opinions in oral presentations.
- ✧ Formulate questions and responses in a variety of settings.
- ✧ Distinguish between main ideas and details in an oral message.
- ✧ Distinguish between different kinds of information (facts, opinions, details, main ideas, fantasy, reality).

STANDARD B Speak effectively using language appropriate to the situation and audience.

- ✧ Use presentation and language techniques appropriate for the situation using language that is clear and audible.
- ✧ Develop and use notes, outlines and visual aides appropriately.
- ✧ Present ideas in a logical order.
- ✧ Support topic with credible, valid and relevant evidence.
- ✧ Demonstrate courtesy and respect for others' rights and points of view when presenting topic.
- ✧ Incorporate feedback to make impromptu modifications.

GOAL 5 Application

Use the language arts to acquire, assess and communicate information.

STANDARD A

Locate, organize, and use information from various sources to answer questions, solve problems and communicate ideas.

- ✧ Survey a subject and select a topic with guidance.
- ✧ Use a variety of sources to collect information relevant to a topic in order to design and prepare a project.
- ✧ Analyze (categorize, classify, sort, organize, combine) and arrange information in an orderly manner (outlining, sequencing, graphic organizers, note cards).
- ✧ Use information available through an organizational system (library, technology, media center).
- ✧ Develop bibliography.
- ✧ Apply criteria for determining credibility of multiple sources of information.

STANDARD B

Analyze and evaluate information acquired from various sources.

- ✧ Use organizational features of text and technology (glossary, table of contents, indices, icons) to analyze and evaluate information.
- ✧ Organize information under main topics (outline, note cards, graphics).
- ✧ Use information from footnotes, illustrations, diagrams, charts and graphs.
- ✧ Locate information in a variety of sources.

STANDARD C

Apply acquired information, concepts and ideas to communicate in a variety of formats.

- ✧ Gather, organize and synthesize information.
- ✧ Select and use texts graphic materials or visual aids to present information (charts, banners, maps).
- ✧ Cite the source of all direct quotes, and paraphrased or summarized information, and compile an appropriately formed bibliography.
- ✧ Design and present a project.