

Literacy Seminar

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Skills

The goal of Literacy Seminar is to help students develop and improve their reading and writing skills so that they can **CONNECT, CREATE, COLLABORATE &**

COMMUNICATE effectively in the world. If you ever wonder how something we are doing is relevant, just

ASK.

Objectives

- Improve proficiency with grade-level texts
- Understand various text structures & features
- Choose and apply comprehension strategies
- Improve vocabulary & word knowledge
- Increase stamina, endurance & focus
- Increase fluency & automaticity

Class Structure

A typical day follows this plan:

- Entrance Activity
- Lesson & Discussion
- Practice
- Independent reading



Everyday we will

**READ, WRITE, TALK,
LISTEN & THINK!**

Learning

Everyone is expected to learn and grow in Lit Seminar. Each student will keep track of personal growth, goals and books read. I will help by providing: instruction based on what students need, individual conferences to assess progress, and grading based on growth. Students will have multiple opportunities to practice and to demonstrate their learning. Students will also be expected to revise or retake assessments where mastery was not achieved.

**PRACTICE, SHOW LEARNING, REVISE &
RETAKE...AS MANY TIMES AS NEEDED.**



Grades

Many chances to
PRACTICE skills
(scored 1, 2, 3, 4)

Skill scores build into
AREAS OF LEARNING
(percentage)

Areas of Learning
are averaged into a
GRADE

Skills Assessment Key

4 - Above & Beyond

You have demonstrated advanced learning, above and beyond what was expected.

3 - Mastery

You have mastered the skill, done just what was required to show proficiency.

2 - Developing

You have learned part of the skill, but not all of it. You may be very close to mastery, or you may have a ways to go.

1 - Just Beginning

You're not progressing on the skills...YET. You need more instruction, time and practice to get it.

Above & beyond! **4** ★

3 Mastery: You got it!

2 Developing:
On your way

1 Just beginning

There are no shortcuts.

Grades

Grades will be figured by averaging a percentage for each area of learning. Percentages will be figured for each area using the following guidelines:

A (90-100%): All 3s & 4s. Mastering ALL learning targets.

B (80-89%): Mix of 2s & 3s. Mastering some; developing on some.

C (70-79%): Straight 2s. Developing on all targets.

D (60-69%): Mix of 1s and 2s.

Areas of Learning:

1. Comprehension
2. Independent Reading
3. Vocabulary
4. Word Study & Fluency

Extra Help:

- REdo ANY assignment all semester
- Come in during Spartan Time
- Ask questions in class
- Come in before school

Technology

Students are expected to bring their iPads to class every day, and use them for educational purposes. We will use our iPads extensively.



Expectations:

1. iPads are charged and ready to use daily.
2. Students are open to new learning and ask for help when needed.
3. Students are on task.
4. Notifications are off.
5. Phones and headphones are not allowed. They are put away before the bell rings.

Apps & Tools:

We use these a lot:

- Notability
- iMovie
- Pages
- Showbie
- Dictionary.com
- Font Candy
- Retrica
- Pic Collage



I'm sure we'll discover some others throughout the year!



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Classroom Expectations

1. Be responsible for your learning: be proactive; be curious; and ask questions.
2. Be kind and contribute to a positive classroom atmosphere. Be part of the solution.
3. See help if there is a problem - ask a question, make a request, use words to communicate your needs.
4. Come to class. Be on time and engage in what we are doing.
5. Respect yourself and those around you.

Challenge. Honor. Advocate. Respect. Give. Engage.



Be a Spartan.