

Public Schools of the Tarrytowns

Grade 6 ELA Curriculum

First Trimester

September

Launching the Reading & Writing Workshops
Week 1, 3 Weeks

Essential Questions:

What do good readers do?

How can keeping a Writers Notebook enable me to become a better writer?

How do readers and writers set goals for themselves?

Skills

Students will be able to:

-generate book lists for reading

-set reading goals

-respond to reading in writing

-keep and maintain a Writers Notebook

-use the Writing Process to collect seed ideas, draft, revise, edit and publish their own writing

October/November

Reading & Writing Informational Texts
Week 4, 6 Weeks

Essential Questions:

How is reading/writing nonfiction different from reading/writing fiction?

What does a reader of nonfiction do differently as they read?

How does a reader of nonfiction apply reading strategies to their reading?

Why do writers write informational texts?

Skills

Students will be able to:

- identify the differences between fiction and nonfiction
- choose informational texts with purpose
- use the text features of informational texts to aid in comprehension
- determine importance and take notes during reading
- write as an “expert” on a topic
- synthesize information from a variety of sources

November

Reading Essays, Writing Essays

Week 11, 4 Weeks

Essential Questions:

Why do writers write in the essay format?

How can my Writers Notebook help me find a topic for my essay?

How can a writer make a difference in their community and world?

How is essay reading different from nonfiction reading?

How does a writer use nonfiction reading to gather information for an essay?

Skills

Students will be able to:

- distinguish fact from opinion
- gather seed ideas for essay topics
- research a topic to respond to in essay form
- draft essays
- revise essay for partiality, point of view, strong lead, supporting points and strong conclusion/call to action
- edit essay using an editing checklist to make it correct (spelling, punctuation, capitalization, tense, etc.)