

Language Arts 6A

SCOPE OF COURSE

Language Arts 6 A develops and strengthens reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, research, and producing skills through the study of myths and legends, fables and fairy tales, poetry, novels, and drama. Basic language and grammar skills are infused throughout the course.

SEQUENCE OF SKILLS

UNIT 1 – Where Is Home?

- Read and analyze *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- Increase vocabulary; use of context clues
- Examine aspects of a legend – real and imaginary
- Identify nouns, verbs, pronouns
- Listening exercises
- Quick Writes - read to teacher / mentor
- Graphic organizers as preparation for writing, writing, and proofreading using C U P S
- Poetry to go with story
- Introduction of prefixes, base word, and suffix
- Visualization activities
- Figures of speech: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, onomatopoeia
- Character journal; character traits
- Cause and effect paragraphs

UNIT 2 – Coming Together

- Read and analyze *Maniac Magee*
- Increase vocabulary; use of context clues; dialect
- Examine aspects of a legend – real and imaginary
- Parts of a sentence: subject/verb; parts of speech: conjunctions
- Listening exercises
- Figurative language
- Poetry to go with story
- Quick Writes - read to teacher / mentor
- Homonyms
- Writing; graphic organizers; sequence using transition words; proofreading using C U P S
- Visualization activities
- Sentence combining; correcting fragments

UNIT 3 – Exploring Reading and Writing

- Journal entries on independent reading: summarize, opinion, predict
- Narrative text characteristics
- Writing narratives
- Informational text characteristics
- Writing to inform
- Research on the Internet; note cards, outline, bibliography, revising, proofreading,
- PowerPoint presentation
- Descriptive text characteristics
- Descriptive writing
- Persuasive text characteristics
- Persuasive writing
- Capitalization rules and practice
- Use of commas, semicolons, quotation marks, apostrophes – practice
- Test taking tips and practice (S U R E, C S P O T, 5W's and the H)

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SEQUENCE OF SKILLS

UNIT 4 – An Uprooting

- Read and analyze *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Background information of Mexico in the 1930s and the Dust Bowl
- Exploration of migrant problems
- Increase vocabulary; use of context clues
- Writer’s craft: exposition, flashback, foreshadowing, figurative language, symbolism, theme
- Grammar review: verbs, nouns (common and proper)
- Proofreading practice: grammatical errors, punctuation
- Visualization activities
- People who made a difference: Sandra Cisneros, Ruben Salazar, Macario García
- Character traits
- Writing; graphic organizers; proofreading using C U P S

UNIT 5 – Heroes and Villains – Real and Imaginary

- Read and analyze *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Racism and prejudice
- Accomplishments of César Chávez
- Increase vocabulary; use of context clues
- Writer’s craft: exposition, flashback, foreshadowing, figurative language, symbolism, theme
- Sentence combining
- Homonyms
- Punctuation practice
- Creative writing: graphic organizer, proofreading using C U P S
- Comparison of the fictional Esperanza with the real Esperanza
- Myths: Arachne, Daedalus and Icarus, King Midas of Phrygia, The Chariot of the Sun
- Unusual creatures in mythology