

Sacred Heart School
Grade 3 Language Arts
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

The third grade language arts program consists of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. A common core approach is utilized. Direct instruction, phonemic awareness, decoding, word recognition, structural analysis, comprehension skills and correlated reading with writing, increases a students' proficiency in becoming skilled readers and writers.

General Course Objectives:

- Students will distinguish between fiction and nonfiction text.
- Students will determine main character, setting, author's purpose, critical details and main idea.
- Students will use graphic organizers to compare and contrast.
- Students will describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence).
- Students will predict outcomes and problem resolutions.
- Students will participate in phonics lessons, study weekly spelling words and learn new vocabulary.
- Students will identify parts of speech, use contractions and punctuation appropriately.
- Students will learn to write extended compound sentences in paragraph form, and write reading responses, invitations, letters, reports, and various forms of poetry throughout the year.
- Students will write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
- Students will write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- Students will write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- Students will self-edit and peer edit written pieces.

Course Materials:

- Journeys: Common Core Student Edition, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2012

Instructional Strategies:

Instructional strategies used are whole group instruction, small group instruction, individual instruction, modeling, peer tutoring, guided reading, buddy reading, written pieces and discussion sessions.

Assessment:

Assessments used are teacher observation, class participation, quizzes, tests, developmental reading assessments, retelling stories, book reports, and completion of projects. DRA's are given throughout the year.