

A SAMPLE OF WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE LEARNING

- Providing detailed summaries of texts
- Determining the theme of a text and how it is conveyed
- Describing how a particular story or play unfolds and how characters respond to plot developments
- Analyzing how chapters of a book, scenes of a play, or stanzas of a poem fit into the overall picture of the piece and contribute to the development of ideas and themes
- Using a range of reading strategies to determine the meaning of unknown words as they are used in a text
- Comparing and contrasting various texts, including poems, stories, and historical novels
- Gaining knowledge from materials that make extensive use of elaborate diagrams and data to convey information and illustrate concepts
- Understanding the figurative and connotative (implied) meaning of words and phrases
- Evaluating the argument and specific claims in written materials or a speech, and distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not
- Supporting written claims or arguments with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- Producing clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience
- Participating in class discussions about various texts and topics
- Conducting short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources

TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Keep conversations focused on concepts your child will be learning.

Ask to see a sample of your child's work and ask the teacher questions such as:

- Is this piece of work satisfactory?
- How could it be better?
- Is my child on track?
- How can I help my child excel in this area?
- If my child needs extra support or wants to learn more about a subject, are there resources to help his/her learning outside the classroom?

ACTIVITIES FOR HOME TO SUPPORT LEARNING

- Visit a library together and ask the librarian to recommend young adult books, such as *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor. To find more recommendations of books for your child to read, visit: <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/acre/standards/common-core-tools/exemplar/ela.pdf>.
- Listen with your child to a television reporter, politician, or other speaker. Ask your child to tell you the speaker's main points. Was the speaker trying to convince the audience of something? How?
- Encourage your child to learn at the library or on the Internet what life in your community was like 100 years ago. Have your child write a story, poem, or play about that time.

6th Grade

Parent Resource English Language Arts



COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS



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Reading Literature

5th Grade Reading

- Students determine the theme of a story, play, or poem from details in the text, including how characters respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon the topic, and students summarize the text.
- Students describe how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described.

6th Grade Reading

- Students determine the theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details and provide a summary of the text without personal opinions or judgements.
- Students explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.

7th Grade Reading

- Students determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text. Students also provide an objective summary of the text.
- Students analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text.

Reading for Information

5th Grade Reading

- Students quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- Students draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

6th Grade Reading

- Students cite evidence from the text to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Students integrate information presented in different media or formats (such as visually or through numbers) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

7th Grade Reading

- Students cite several pieces of evidence from the text to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Students compare and contrast a text to an audio, video, or multimedia version of the text, analyzing each medium's portrayal of the subject (such as how the delivery of a speech affects the impact of the words).

Writing

5th Grade Writing

- Students introduce a topic clearly, providing a general observation and focus, and develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information.
- Students provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.
- Students group related information logically and use formatting (such as headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful.
- Students link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (such as *in contrast* or *especially*).
- Students use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary.

6th Grade Writing

- Students introduce a topic and develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information.
- Students provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.
- Students organize ideas, concepts, and information using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect.
- Students use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- Students use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary.

7th Grade Writing

- Students introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow, and develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information.
- Students provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.
- Students organize ideas, concepts, and information using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect.
- Students use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- Students use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.