

Lakewood City Schools
7th Grade
English Language Arts
Common Core Course of Study
Attainment Guide
2014-2015



Overview

This 7th Grade Language Arts curriculum has been crafted to be a work in progress. If we are successful, it will never be complete and will constantly be evolving. We intend to integrate this curriculum across the disciplines especially in regard to project based learning and an end of middle school capstone project. This mirrors what they will see again at the high school level if they continue their education within the Lakewood City School district. Please consult the companion document (Grade 7 ELA COS Scope and Sequence) for the complete listing of the Common Core standard statements needed for the year.

Essential Question

The “essential question” highlights the usefulness, the relevance, and the greater benefit of a unit. It is often the “so what?” question about material covered. It should be answerable, at least to some degree, by the end of the unit, but it should also have more than one possible answer. It should prompt intellectual exploration by generating other questions. Here’s an example from eighth grade: “How does learning history through literature differ from learning through informational text?”

Focus Standards

These standards are taken directly from the CCSS and have been identified as especially important for the unit. Other standards are covered in each unit as well, but the focus standards are the ones that the unit has been designed to address specifically.

Suggested Student Objectives and Assessments

These are the specific student outcomes for the unit. They describe the transferable ELA content and skills that students should possess when the unit is completed. The objectives are often components of more broadly-worded standards and sometimes address content and skills necessarily related to the standards. The lists are not exhaustive, and the objectives should not supplant the standards themselves. Rather, they are designed to help teachers “drill down” from the standards and augment as necessary, providing added focus and clarity for lesson planning purposes.

Suggested Resources

Included with this document is a long list of potential reading (literature and informational), art, and film. This is also not to be set in stone and is meant as a list of potential works that a teacher *can* use to explore the theme of any given unit. It is far from comprehensive and it is hoped that as teachers use this document, they will add to it. The resources pool document will be used to more comprehensively record all our options as they occur to us.

Quarter One - Characters with Character/Perseverance

Essential Questions

What makes characters in historical fiction believable?

How do characters, real and fictional, use words and actions to demonstrate certain character traits such as curiosity, integrity, perseverance, and courage.

Focus Standards (TBT Assessments)

CC.7.R.L.3 Key Ideas and Details: Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot). **September**

CC.7.R.L.3 Key Ideas and Details: Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events). **October**

Literary Texts

Drama

The Miracle Worker: A Play (William Gibson) LLA (688)

Poetry

I to My Perils (A.E. Housman) LLA (631)

The Charge of the Light Brigade (Alfred, Lord Tennyson) LLA (657)

Name Giveaway (Phil George) LLA (44)

A Deserted Barn (Larry Woiwode) LLA (622)

Forgotten Language (Shel Silverstein) LLA (639)

The Lost Parrot (Naomi Shihab Nye) LLA (646)

Sympathy (Paul Laurence Dunbar) LLA (418)

Caged Bird (Maya Angelou) LLA (419)

Novels

Crispin: The Cross of Lead (Avi) LRC set, 780L

The Midwife's Apprentice (Karen Cushman) LRC set, 1240L

Ties that Bind, Ties that Break (Lensey Namioka) 830L

A Christmas Carol (Charles Dickens) LRC set, 900L

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (Mildred Taylor) 920L

Treasure Island (Robert Louis Stevenson) LRC set, 1040L

I am the Cheese (Robert Cormier) LRC set, 810

Short Story

The Inn of Lost Time (Lensey Namioka) LLA (210)

The Ground Always Damp (Luci Tapahonso) LLA (535)

Luke Baldwin's Vow (Morley Callaghan) LLA (542)

Getting the Facts of Life (Paulette Childress) LLA (557)

A Secret for Two (Quentin Reynolds) LLA (569)

The Tell Tale Heart (Edgar Allan Poe) LLA (386)

Greek Myths and Heroic Tales

Mythology (Edith Hamilton) 1040L

Persephone and Demeter (retold by Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire) LLA(474)

Nonfiction

Elizabeth I from Ten Queens for Women in Power (Milton Meltzer) LLA(770)

An Indian Boy's Story LLA (46)

I Have a Dream Speech (MLK) online 930L

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/01/17/i-have-a-dream-speech-text_n_809993.html (scroll down a few inches for the full text)

Video: **Available in Mediacast. Search "I Have a Dream"**

Learning to Read Malcolm X

<http://www.smccd.net/accounts/bellr/ReaderLearningtoRead.htm>

Ernest Green Story

Available in Mediacast: Search: "Ernest Green Story"

Little Rock Nine

Children's March

Memoir

Red Scarf Girl (Ji-Li Jiang) 780L

Media (Movies)

Arthur Penn, dir., *The Miracle Worker* (1962)

Treasure Island

Roll of Thunder

Rudy

Quarter 2 - Courage in Life and in Literature

Essential Question

How can reading about the courage of real people inform our understanding of determined literary characters?

Focus Standards (*TBT Assessment*)

*CC.7.R.L.1 Key Ideas and Details: Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. **November-December***

Literary Texts

Poetry

High Flight (John Gillespie Magee Jr.)

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/highflig.htm>

Tennis in the City (Arthur Ashe) LLA (290)

Sympathy (Paul Laurence Dunbar) LLA (418)

Caged Bird (Maya Angelou) LLA (419) 1070L

Novels

Roll of Thunder (Mildred Taylor)

A Tale of Two Cities (Charles Dickens) 990L

Summer of My German Soldier (Bette Greene) 800L

Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie (Jordan Sonnenblick) 940L

Greek Myths and Heroic tales

Mythology (Edith Hamilton)

Persephone and Demeter (retold by Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire) LLA (474)

Speech

The Challenger Disaster (Peggy Noonan) LLA (425)

Memoir

Red Scarf Girl (Ji Li Jiang)

Nonfiction

From Off the Court (Arthur Ashe) LLA (277)

A Black Athlete Looks at Education (Arthur Ashe) LLA (291)

Quarter 3 - Survival in the Wild

Essential Question

What similarities and differences exist among characters who survive?

Focus Standards (TBT Assessments)

CC.7.R.1.1 Key Ideas and Details: Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. **January**

CC.7.R.1.2 Key Ideas and Details: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text. **February**

CC.7.R.1.2 Key Ideas and Details: Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text. **March**

Literary Texts

Poetry

- *Caged Bird* (Maya Angelou) LLA(419)

Short Stories

The Sea Devil (Arthur Gordon) online

- http://mrsgrubb.com/PDFfiles/The_Sea_Devil.pdf

Leiningen Versus the Ants (Carl Stephenson) on-line

- <http://www.classicshorts.com/stories/lvta.html>

To Build a Fire (Jack London) online
The Most Dangerous Game (Richard Connell) on-line
How the Snake got Poison (Zora Neale Hurston) LLA (121)
The Dinner Party (Mona Gardner) LLA (122)

Novels

Place of Lions (Eric Campbell)
Island Keeper (Harry Mazer)
Call It Courage, LRC set, 830 L
Snowbound, LRC set, 690L

Nonfiction

Revenge of the Whale (Nathaniel Philbrick) 1170L

Short Nonfiction

Survive the Savage Sea (Elements of Literature)
The Green Mamba (Roald Dahl) LLA (115)

Film

Sir Ernest Shackleton documentary

Quarter 4 - Making Sense of our World

Essential Question

Is literature always a reflection of life?

Focus Standard (*TBT Assessment*)

CC.7.R.1.4 Craft and Structure: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

April-May

Literary Texts

Poetry

Once by the Pacific (Robert Frost) LLA
Corners of the Curving Sky (Unknown) LLA
Joyful Noise (Paul Fleischman) LRC set

Short Stories

Zebra LLA (6)
Flowers for Algernon (Daniel Keyes) Elements of Literature 910L
Pets (Avi) LLA (343)
The Foghorn (Ray Bradbury) LLA (371)
Future Tense (Robert Lipsyte) online

- http://heights.fms.k12.nm.us/faculty_staff/wleupold/0409EC95-00757F35.8/Future%20Tense.pdf

Gift of the Magi (O. Henry) online 940L

- http://www.auburn.edu/~vestmon/Gift_of_the_Magi.html

Ransom of Red Chief (O. Henry) online

- http://fiction.eserver.org/short/ransom_of_red_chief.html

The Serial Garden (Joan Aiken) LLA (177)

The Tell Tale Heart (Edgar Allan Poe) online 1350L

- <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/poe/telltale.html>

Cask of Amontillado (Edgar Allan Poe) online 700L

- <http://poestories.com/text.php?file=amontillado>

Novel

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and Other Stories of the Supernatural (Robert Louis Stevenson) 560L

The Giver (Lois Lowry) LRC set, 760L

The War of the Worlds (H.G. Wells) LRC set, 1170L

The Pigman (Paul Zindel) LRC set 950L

Drama

Twelfth Night (William Shakespeare) 1040L

Nonfiction

Vietnam Veterans Memorial (Maya Lin) LLA (22)

Media

War of the Worlds (Orson Welles, *The Mercury Theater on Air*, October 30, 1938)

- <http://www.mercurytheatre.info/> (scroll down to find)

Music

The Planets (1914-16) (Gustav Holst)

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHVsszW7Nds>

Film

Twelfth Night

She's the Man

Abbreviations:

LLA = Literature and the Language Arts (EMC purple book)

L = Lexile Level

LE = Language Essentials (EMC small purple book) – language/grammar resource

Text and Lessons = Text and Lessons for Content Area Reading by Harvey Daniels and Nancy Steineke

Elements of Literature (gray book)