

MCI Language Arts Curriculum

Courses 12.01, 12.02

Written 7/06

Grades 9-12

Course Description- The MCI Language Arts course is designed for the mildly-moderately cognitively impaired student in grades 9-12. The course encompasses both written and oral language and uses a variety of activities and strategies to reinforce and improve reading, writing and oral expression.

Course Goals and Objectives-

Goal- Develop proficiency in skills necessary for written communication.

Objectives-

- Develop student's mastery of essential grammar, usage and mechanics through focused instruction and practice.
- Build vocabulary usage and comprehension
- Improve letter writing skills
- Improve spelling skills through weekly spelling lists and activities
- Use a level appropriate dictionary

Goal- To improve reading skills

Objectives-

- Decode using common phonics rules
- Answer simple reading comprehension questions
- Follow a series of simple directions
- Read both non-fiction and fiction chapter books on an appropriate reading level for enjoyment
- Gain information from graphs, charts and diagrams
- Sequence information from a story into a logical order
- Identify and describe the elements of the plot, settings and characters.
- Identify the sections of a newspaper and locate specific information in the newspaper.
- Demonstrate the ability to recall facts and details of text.

Goal- To improve reading fluency

Objectives-

- Pause at appropriate end points
- Use an appropriate pace when reading aloud.
- Use appropriate inflection
- Read aloud to the class

Goal- To become more proficient at public speaking.

Objectives-

- Recite poems and stories orally.
- Read aloud from appropriate books with attention to expression.
- Participate in a dramatization or play.
- Use pictures to support an oral presentation.

Core Curriculum Content Standards Addressed

High Point Regional High School's curriculum and instruction are aligned to the state's Core Curriculum Content Standards and address the elimination of discrimination by narrowing the achievement gap, by providing equity in the educational programs and by providing opportunities for students to interact positively with others regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability, or socio-economical status.

3.1- Reading

3.2- Writing

3.3- Speaking

3.4- Listening

Units of Study-

A. Letter Writing- 8 weeks

Unit goal- To develop proficiency in skills necessary for written communication.

Unit objectives-

- Write formal and informal letters for a variety of audiences and purposes.
- Use appropriate English grammar and usage when writing letters.
- Use correct capitalization and punctuation when writing letters.
- Indent in writing to show the beginning of a paragraph.
- Write legibly in manuscript or cursive.
- Use computer keyboarding skills to compose personal and business letters.

Unit Evaluation-

- Student letters will be evaluated on the basis of: grammar, capitalization, form, completeness and punctuation.
- Students will be graded on worksheets to be completed both in class and as homework.

Materials-

- Scholastic Success With Grammar, Scholastic, Inc.
- 100% Reading, Linguisystems, Inc.
- 100% Grammar, Linguisystems, Inc.

- 100% Punctuation, Linguisystems, Inc.

Community Involvement-

- The MCI Students will write letters to troops in the military throughout the year.
- Students will write letters to the Editor of the school newspaper.

B. Class Production- 8 Weeks

Unit Goal- To become more proficient at public speaking.

Unit Objectives-

- Participate in a class dramatization.
- Use appropriate strategies to prepare, rehearse, and deliver an oral presentation, such as expression, eye contact and volume.
- Memorize the sequence of the story.
- Use props effectively while speaking.
- Incorporate peer feedback and teacher suggestions for revisions in organization and delivery.

Unit Evaluation-

- Students will present the show to parents and teachers. Audience feedback will provide an evaluation of the performance.
- Students will self evaluate their performance.
- Students will complete teacher-made worksheets on sequencing the events in the story.

Materials-

- Teacher created manuscript
- Props and scenery
- Teacher created worksheets

Community Involvement-

- Parents, teachers, administrators and the local newspaper will be invited to attend.
- Students will perform the play at a local nursing home.

C. One Book, One Community- 8 Weeks

Unit Goal- To improve reading skills

Unit Objectives-

- Use phonics skills to sound out unknown words
- Decode multisyllabic words.
- Read silently and follow along in the text when someone else is reading.
- Demonstrate ability to recall facts and details.
- Recognize cause and effect, fact and opinion, and main idea in text.
- Discuss underlying theme or message.

Evaluation-

- Students will be evaluated with quizzes and tests.

- Students will complete creative writing assignments about the story.

Materials-

The book used will be the book chosen by the One Book, One Community committee.

Community Involvement-

- This book is selected by a district-wide committee and is read by students in all the sending districts. The MCI class will participate in One Book, One Community activities, which are listed on the web site.

D. Journal Writing- All year

Unit Goal- To develop proficiency in written communication

Unit Objectives-

- Recognize that thoughts can be expressed in written words.
- Generate ideas for writing
- Use sentences to convey ideas
- Use words in an appropriate context
- Edit work for basic spelling and mechanics
- Keep a journal of personal thoughts.
- Keep a weekly garden journal to document progress in the class garden.

Evaluation-

- Students are evaluated based on the completion of journal entries, neatness and length of entry. Punctuation and capitalization is not a graded component of the journal writing assignment.

Materials-

- Marble composition books decorated by the students.

E. Flushed, by Carl Hiasson- 8 Weeks

Unit Goal-

- To promote the ideals of ecology and conservation with the use of a fiction novel.
- To improve reading skills, including phonics and fluency.

Unit Objectives-

- To recognize the purpose of a text.
- To distinguish cause/effect, fact/opinion and main idea.
- Recognize that authors use humor, sarcasm and imagery to enrich stories.
- To summarize major points
- To demonstrate the ability to recall facts and details.

Evaluation-

- Teacher made tests and quizzes
- Project- students will create a diorama to illustrate their favorite scene from the novel.

Materials-

- Flushed, Carl Hiasson
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