



HAMPSTEAD HILL ACADEMY
Class Syllabus
School Year 2018-2019

Teacher's Name: Kelsey Schultz
Grade Level: 4th
Subject: Reading
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Goal:

The goal of fourth grade reading is to increase students' skills in decoding, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing.

Course Overview:

In reading this year, students will be reading extensive and varied reading selections. Students will gain background knowledge before reading stories relating to those topics. Students will also work on reading fluency, vocabulary, literary analysis and writing.

Students will have daily vocabulary at the beginning of each lesson. During the reading section students will participate in read-alouds, partner reads, and answering comprehension questions. After reading, students will answer workbook questions that include comprehension, vocabulary, making outlines, interpreting maps, and making timelines. In their textbooks, students will answer more detailed comprehension questions and complete a daily writing activity. After students complete all their reading work that corresponds to their textbook, students will be working in centers. These centers will have Common Core work and reading extension activities.

Students will also be working on the following skills:

- Character traits
- Sequencing
- Fact vs. Fiction
- Using Evidence
- Comparisons & Contradictions
- Main Idea
- Setting
- Similes
- Metaphors
- Exaggeration
- Outlining & Summarization
- Classification
- Relevant & Inferential Information
- Context Clues
- Recalling Details
- Figurative Language
- Drawing Conclusions

Supplies:

Students need their reading textbook, this will be sent home every evening and return to school the next day. Students will also have two reading folders that will stay in the classroom. Students should also be bringing their homework folder and agenda to class every day.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be respectful
2. Be responsible
3. Be friendly and caring
4. Be safe

Student Behavior and Consequences:

In addition to the classroom rules, students will be expected to follow the Hampstead Hill Academy School wide Expectations. These expectations are in place to ensure that all students are in a safe environment at all times.

Grading Policy:

In Reading, students will be assessed using the following grading scale:

Tests: 40%

Tests are usually given every two weeks, after 10 lessons are completed to mastery. Mastery on tests is 90% or higher.

Checkouts: 20%

Checkouts are usually given every two weeks, after the 10 lessons are completed to mastery.

Classwork: 30%

Classwork will be assigned at the completion of each lesson. Classwork can include work in their workbook, their textbook and extra Reading assignments. Mastery on independent work is 85% or higher.

Homework: 10%

Homework will be assigned nightly Monday-Thursday and should take no more than 20 minutes. Typically, reading homework will consist of reviewing the lesson we read earlier in class and answering a reading skills worksheet. Homework should be written down in students' agendas daily.

Homework:

Each night of the week students are to reread that days' lesson. Students will have reading homework worksheets that will reinforce their reading skills.

Extra-Credit Work:

There is no extra-credit work assigned. Any extra-credit will be assigned in class through extension activities.

Make-up/Missing Work:

If a student is absent it is their responsibility to make sure their missing work is made up. If they want to come before or after school to make the work up, that can be arranged. Students need to make sure that their work is completed at least one week after being absent.

Coach Class:

Coach class will be conducted on every Thursday from 7:30-8:00am.

Late Policy:

Homework that is turned in late will receive half credit. Homework is factored into the student effort grade.

Portfolios:

Portfolios will be used to show reading extensions that have been completed. We will be working with Mrs. Guitian to do extra projects in reading that will be included in our portfolios.

Projects:

There are two major grade level projects in which students are expected to participate. The first project, is to be assigned and completed in the fall. The other project, the HHA Science Fair Project, will be due in the spring. Expectations for the project will be released eight to ten weeks prior to the project due date.

Field Trips:

We will be taking many field trips throughout the year. Permission slips and trip details will go out at least two weeks prior to class field trips.

Parent Portal:

Parents can access the parent portal to view student classwork and tests. The gradebook is updated daily.

Teacher Bio:

Ms. Schultz grew up in Baltimore and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware and her Masters of Education from Johns Hopkins University. After completing her undergraduate degree, Ms. Schultz joined Teach For America and taught second grade in Baltimore. Ms. Schultz could not be more excited to be part of the HHA community and to be teaching fourth grade reading this year!