

CLASS SYLLABUS

Instructor: Charlie Cameron

Subject: English Language Arts

Grade: 6th Grade

School: Northwest Elementary School

COURSE OVERVIEW

The state framework for 6th-grade English Language Arts (ELA) has content emphasis on 5 major standards:

1. Literature
2. Informational Text
3. Writing
4. Speaking and Listening
5. Language

<https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards/english-language-arts-standards.html>

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- **Attendance Policy**
<https://cockecountyschools.org/departments/attendance/>
- **Excused/Unexcused absences lead to chronic absenteeism:**
https://cockecountyschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Attendance-Works-Elementary_handout_101421.pdf
- **Classroom Policy/Procedures/Discipline** prodedures follow local board policy
- **Students are held accountable for their actions. However, their actions and hard work are also rewarded. They will be rewarded with treats, prizes, and parties.**

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Final grades for English Language Arts will be based on the percentage of points a student earns. The grades will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	90-100%	Excellent
B	80-89%	Good
C	70-79%	Average
D	60-69%	Poor
F	0-50%	Failing

- Grades for this course are weighted by: Tests 40%; Quizzes 30%; Classwork/Performance 30%
- **Makeup Work/Late Work Policy:** The teacher may accept late work at their discretion. Make-up work is to be completed within 3 days of returning to school.
- Viewing grades on Aspen is optional. Grades will be posted on the Aspen Gradebook. Instructors will update grades each time a grading period ends.

COCKE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

<https://cockecountyschools.org/>

As students master these standards, they will demonstrate independence, build strong content knowledge, respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline, comprehend and critique evidence, use technology and digital media strategically and capably, and come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

INSTRUCTION

The class combines lecture, discussion, and activity-based learning. Students will use the Beanstack program to improve their reading and comprehension skills after reading their chapter book. They will also complete writing tasks and Amplify lessons, which are listed in the table below.

Time of Year	Name of Unit	Approximate Time
August/September	Unit 6 A Dahl and Narrative	16 Lessons
September/October	Unit 6B Mysteries & Investigations	32 Lessons
November/December	Unit 6 C The Chocolate Collection	18 Lessons
January/February	The Greeks	14 Lessons
February/March	Summer of the Mariposas	21 Lessons
April	Poetry In America	9 Lessons
April/May	Roll of Thunder	Novel Unit

- Unit specifics are listed in the Amplify program. Listed dates are subject to change slightly at the teacher's discretion.
- In conjunction with the Amplify program, students are required to read at least 5 books per grading period with a 70% or higher grade.
- Teachers will supply any required text that will be used throughout the year. The texts have been approved by the Cocke County School System.
- Students will complete Mastery Connect assignments to show mastery of a standard.
- The students will use Chromebooks for only academic instruction.
- Materials needed are Amplify text, Amplify Journal, Chromebook, ELA Notebook, the book the student is reading, and a folder.
- All ELA standards have been implemented by the State of Tennessee. The content of Amplify has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Education and edited for content by local board policy. All curriculum is approved by the Cocke County School System.
- Safety procedures are posted in the classroom, while practices are regularly held to ensure safety protocols.
- Students performing at or below the 25th percentile on the universal screener, Aimsweb Plus, may qualify for the Response to Intervention (RTI) program. The Response to Intervention is held for 45 minutes in addition to regular English Language Arts instruction.

RELIGION IN THE CLASSROOM

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion - and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Religious themes may be a part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The inclusion of religion shall be for educational purposes only;¹
3. The emphasis on religious themes should be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of the curriculum. Such studies shall never be used to proselytize, establish, foster, or demean any particular religion, religious tenets, or beliefs; and¹
4. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated.

PLAGIARISM

- Include plagiarism regarding generative AI (see board policy)
 - According to Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition: Plagiarism is defined as “presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased.”
 - Copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work;
 - Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
 - Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
 - Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator.
- Consequences of Plagiarism
 - Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accepting a letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents are to be involved in making this decision.

I AM HERE TO HELP!

I am here to help your student succeed! If you have questions or need extra support, feel free to reach out. I encourage parents and guardians to contact me with any concerns or questions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Parents/ Guardians may reach out to Northwest Elementary School:
- (423) 623-4697
- Mrs. Charlie Cameron
- Parent Square/ASPEN