

8th Grade Reading

Syllabus, Information Sheet, & Student Signature

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8th Grade Reading
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Conference Period: 7:55-8:40

Course Description and Essential Knowledge

Welcome to Reading! This course is designed to help students strengthen their reading, thinking, and communication skills. Throughout the year, students will read a variety of texts—fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and more—with a focus on understanding what they read, thinking critically, and making connections to their own lives and the world around them. We'll also spend time building vocabulary, exploring different authors and genres, and practicing how to share ideas through writing and discussion.

Student Progress, Assessment, and Grading

Student learning will be evaluated through both formative (ongoing) and summative (final) assessments.

- Formative assessments are used during the learning process to track progress and guide instruction. These may include journal responses, reading logs, exit tickets, in-class practice, and group discussions.
- Summative assessments are used to measure what a student has learned at the end of a unit or reading selection. These may include quizzes, tests, essays, presentations, and projects.

To support student success, we will offer regular warm-ups, review activities, and opportunities for extra help when needed. Bonus points or optional assignments may also be offered at the teacher's discretion. Grades are based on a total points system, reflecting a combination of reading comprehension, vocabulary skills, written responses, homework, and projects.

Grading Breakdown:

- Daily Work (Classwork, Homework, Participation, etc.): 60%
- Tests, Quizzes, Major Assignments: 40%

Final Grade Calculation (by Quarter):

- Quarter 1: 25%
- Quarter 2: 25%
- Quarter 3: 25%
- Quarter 4: 25%

The final course grade reflects the student's overall growth and mastery of reading skills throughout the year, from August to May.

Expectations:

1. **Arrive to class on time and come to class prepared.** Students should bring a notebook/binder and pen/pencil to class every day.

2. **Student work accountability.** Students are responsible for completing ALL assignments. Students can request an extension for some assignments but extensions are not granted for routine assignments. Work that is excessively late detracts from student learning. All late work is due one week prior to the end of each quarter for consideration in the quarter grade.
3. **Be organized.** ALL assignments, notes, and handouts should be kept in your notebook/binder because it is being graded. If you are absent, you should get any missed assignments from your teacher. You are responsible for all materials covered in class, including videos, presentations, and supplementary readings.
4. **Do your own work** (No plagiarism or cheating). Students are expected to complete their own work. Any student who gives or receives unauthorized help- (including materials)- on quizzes, tests, or other assignments is cheating. Plagiarism - using text from another source, including internet websites, without permission or citation - is also considered inappropriate. Such behavior may result in a student receiving no credit for the assignment.
5. **A classroom is based on mutual respect.**
 - Politely listen to your classmates' opinions and ideas, think about what they have said, and contribute to discussions.
 - Respect property that is not your own. Unless something is yours, please do not touch it without permission.
 - Conduct yourself appropriately in class. Treat others as you wish to be treated.
6. **Materials needed:**
 - Composition book
 - Binder
 - Pen and pencil
 - Colored pencils
 - Glue sticks

I have read and understand the expectations and procedures described above for Reading. *Throughout the year I agree to follow and support them, and when I find that I cannot follow and support them, I agree to discuss my concerns with my instructor.*

Name (printed): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____