

8S Language Arts - Ms. Bayers

October 2025	It has been a pleasure getting to know the students in the RLMS Class of 2026. We are settling in nicely, getting to know each other, and establishing expectations and routines. All students have an independent reading book and have been encouraged to read as part of their daily work. We are fully immersed in our first unit, "Sharing Experiences that Shape Us through the Art of Narrative." Students have read several realistic fiction narratives, and we will be transitioning into narrative nonfiction next. Students will be reading with a reader's and writer's lens, noting the events the author chooses to include that create experiences leading toward the author's epiphany. Students will also read many short published personal narratives in class. These pieces will serve as models for their own personal narrative writing. Students identify writer's craft techniques in the personal narratives we read, and they hold class discussions around the texts. They craft free-writes on the various topics included in each text. These free-writes serve as places for students to begin brainstorming for ideas they may want to use as topics of their personal narratives. Some authors we read in this unit include Sandra Cisneros, James Howe, Dick Gregory, Ishmael Beah, Todd Strasser, Susan Beth Pfeffer, and Annie Dillard, to name a few.
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