



Portland Public Schools
Middle Level
Syllabus Template

School Year 2011-2012

Teacher: Joseph Walker		School: Mt. Tabor Middle School	
Subject: Language Arts	Course Title: 8 th Grade Language Arts	Grade Level(s): 8 th	
Is high school credit an option for this course? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
Prerequisites:			
Course description: 8 th grade language arts instruction with a year-long, writing-based curriculum. Students will practice a multiple step approach to the development and organization of ideas and apply this approach to reading and literature. Emphasis on peer review and revision.			
Priority Standards (optional in 2008): Read or demonstrate progress toward reading at an independent and instructional reading level appropriate to grade level in a wide range of texts (ELA 08.01); Make valid inferences about an author's unstated meaning and valid conclusions about an author's stated meaning, based on facts, events, and images in both informative and literary text (ELA 08.04); Write for different purposes and to a specific audience or person, adjusting style and tone as necessary to engage the interest of the reader in multi-paragraph compositions (ELA 08.11); Apply conventions grammar, punctuation, and capitalization (ELA 08.12).			
Schedule of topics/units covered: Various Literature Units; Writing Workshop; Personal Narrative; Conventions; Character Analysis; Book Reviews; Persuasive Writing; Poetry			
Academic Vocabulary (optional in 2008):			
District adopted materials EMC			
Supplemental resources: Novel sets and literary sources as needed			
Differentiation/ accessibility strategies and support (TAG, ELL, SpEd, other): Activities utilizing multiple intelligences; extensions for deeper research; criterion-based assessment; portfolio/holistic assessment; multiple modes of teacher presentation; adjustment of rate and level; acceleration of curriculum.			

Final proficiencies:

Read a variety of informational and narrative texts at an independent level appropriate to grade level; write responses to literary text with a focus at various times on conflict, theme, genre, etc; write essays in the modes of imaginative narrative, personal narrative, persuasive, and expository; meet or exceed grade level standard for Classroom Speaking Work Sample.

Essential skills to be taught or assessed:

X	X	Read and comprehend
X	X	Write clearly and accurately
X	X	Listen actively and speak clearly
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply mathematics
X	X	Think critically
X	X	Personal management and teamwork
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use technology
X	X	Civic and Community Engagement
X	X	Global Literacy

Assessment/evaluation/grading policy:

Standards based; multiple formative and summative assessment; ongoing portfolio; effort/organization; late work accepted with "parental management"

Behavioral expectations:

Respect for people and the Earth; Act responsibly at all times; Safety first

Safety issues and requirements:

Connected to behavior expectations

Signature of instructor completing this form:

Administrator Approval:

By approving this syllabus the administrator verifies that

- a. the course code written on this form is accurate and that this code has been correctly placed into eSIS by the school's data clerk.*
- b. the teacher listed on the syllabus meets the endorsement requirements as set forth by ODE and NCLB.*
- c. the course meets the requirements of the District required core curriculum including standards.*
- d. the teacher is using District adopted materials or has been approved to use other resources.*