

Mr. Law - 4th/5th Grade Syllabus

ACCELERATED READING/NIGHTLY READING

Reading is the key to academic and professional success. Our goal this year is to become voracious readers in school and at home. Starting in September, you are expected to read two novels per month. You should choose novels that are at your independent reading level (not too difficult, not too easy). The exact time you spend reading at home each day is flexible, but not optional. You are responsible for managing your own reading every day. The self-selection of reading material empowers learners and encourages independent decision-making.

ATTENDANCE

It is important you attend class and arrive on time each day. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what occurred or will occur. If you are absent when an assignment is due, then it is due the day you return to class. If you are absent when the work is assigned, you have the days absent as extra days to complete the missing work.

ASSISTANCE

Please see me if you would like extra help. I will be as flexible as I can. If you have a question because you didn't hear something or don't understand, please ask. Ask when you have the question; not when it is time for the test.

BEHAVIOR/CITIZENSHIP

I believe students should be responsible for their behavior. At the end of each day, I select a super worker, super citizens and a super group based upon effort and behavior. Our class rules are:

1. Follow directions the first time they are given
2. Eyes front when the teacher is talking
3. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak
4. Treat others as you wish to be treated
5. You are responsible for your own behavior

Consequences are progressive but reset at the end of the day. They will be: warning, loss of recess/recesses, phone call to parent/guardian and afterschool detention. A severe disruption could result in removal from the classroom.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are a special time. If you would like to bring a treat for the class, please contact me. If you have a birthday during the summertime, you may choose any day during the year to celebrate your birthday at school (e.g. their "half-birthday").

COMMUNICATION

Student work is sent home the week following its completion. I will send home a Monday Memo detailing work completion and student behavior. Please have your parent/guardian sign this and return to school. Email is the best way to contact me (glaw@wpusd.k12.ca.us) and I check it several times during the school day. Additionally, we have an updated class website (<http://law7315.com>) that is a valuable resource for checking homework, spelling words, curriculum links, grades, and forms.

GRADING

Grades are standards-based reporting and determined by what you demonstrate your understanding is of the material. As such, extra credit is not an option.

HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK

Homework is assigned on a daily basis and is recorded in our student planner. Please review this with your parent/guardian. All homework is due the following morning. You should keep all work in your three-ring binder. Students with zero missing assignments (both homework & classwork) will earn free time on Friday afternoon.

PAPERS/RESEARCH

There will be three types of writing you will work on this year. Our class will cover (4th) informative, opinion, and narratives; (5th) narratives, persuasion and expository/research. We will complete most of the prewriting in class but you will be expected to complete the final draft at home. You will be working on researching short, various topics throughout the year to develop your skills investigating and synthesizing a topic. Your larger research project will be on a state and will occur in the latter part of the school year.

PHYSICAL FITNESS/P.E. (5th Grade only)

You are tested on your physical fitness in the springtime. Once we take the preassessment, we will be working on improving any needed areas. We do P.E. activities most days of the week. Please wear shoes appropriate for running and active games.

SUPPLIES

You will need a three-ring binder, earbuds, 3 composition notebooks, and tabbed subject dividers or folders for each subject. Additional suggested materials will be discussed at Back to School Night.

WISH LIST - CLASS SUPPLIES

Although not necessary, these items would be appreciated and benefit the classroom: Glue sticks, Kleenex, black Sharpies, and hand sanitizer.

Your signature indicates you have read, discussed and agree to abide by these policies.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

**All children are gifted. Some just open
their packages later than others!**