

2024-2025 Course Syllabus
Jessica Jordan – 6th Grade English – Language Arts
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Cartersville Middle School
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Course Description:

Throughout the upcoming year, your child will experience a number of different learning activities including: reading and discussing several novels, learning and practicing different language skills and strategies, increasing his or her vocabulary, and focusing on improving his/her writing skills.

Sixth grade ELA is designed to increase communication skills through reading, writing, speaking, and the study of the English language. The primary focus in class will be mastery of different writing styles, demonstration of proper grammar usage, and the ability for students to express themselves orally.

The Georgia Standards of Excellence require students to read a variety of literary and informational texts, short stories, poetry, and essays. Texts will be used as models to demonstrate the standard for each genre of writing. Writing assignments will include journal writing, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary and grammar assignments will also be integrated throughout class. To foster a learning environment where students are encouraged to work as a community, the manner in which students complete tasks will vary.

This year, our class will be reading several of the following literary works and novels:

- ***Restart* by Gordon Korman**
- ***Front Desk* by Kelly Yang**
- ***Milkweed* by Jerry Spinelli**
- ***The Storm Runner* by J.C. Cervantes**
- ***Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk**
- ***The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne**
- ***Ashes* by Katheryn Lasky**

We will also be using resources found on the StudySync textbook website. Texts chosen from the Common Lit website will also be used to teach and reinforce standards and units. These works/novels have been approved by the district and support the curriculum. If you wish for your student to have an alternate reading assignment, please contact me at bwilkins@cartersvilleschools.org.

Grading Procedures:

Students will be assessed using both summative and formative processes. Summative assessments and assignments (unit tests, midterm/final exams, and projects) will constitute 60% of a learner's overall term average. Formative assignments and tasks (classwork, homework, participation) will constitute 40% of a learner's overall term average.

Grading: A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 F = 69 & Below

Late work, although discouraged, will be accepted; however, points will be deducted according to grade recovery policy standards (refer to the student handbook).

Homework:

As a general rule, students will be expected to **read nightly for a minimum of 20 minutes**. In addition, we encourage students to **review class notes daily**. Students will also be responsible for completing classwork that was not completed during class.

Classroom Expectations:

To complete each day's tasks in the most effective manner possible, I have established several expectations for students to follow. **My first expectation is that students enter the classroom with a positive attitude.** Positivity in thought and actions can be contagious and that is the classroom community that I want to foster. **My second expectation is that students demonstrate respect in all interactions.**

Respect is a small gesture that can reap rewards for a lifetime. **My final expectation is that students come to class prepared and ready to learn.** Preparation and willingness to learn are life skills that can be used in every area of life.

Academic Honesty:

All individuals will be expected to perform academic work without plagiarism (copying any information from another source including written or internet), cheating, lying, tampering, stealing, giving or receiving unauthorized assistance from any other person, or using any source of information that is not common knowledge without properly acknowledging the source.

Communication with Parents:

Parent/Teacher interaction is vital to your child's success as a student. Several tools are available to facilitate communication between teachers and parents.

- ✓ **Infinite Campus:** Infinite Campus allows parents to access grades in all subject areas. Infinite Campus can be accessed through the Cartersville School System website (Cartersvilleschools.org). Login information is required and can be obtained by contacting the front office.
- ✓ **Individual Teacher Websites:** Each teacher has designed a website that includes essential information related to assignments and announcements. Teacher websites can be accessed through the Cartersville School System website.
- ✓ **Student Agendas:** This year, all students will receive a school purchased agenda, and will be expected to record daily assignments and any unfinished classwork (homework). Agendas should be checked nightly for homework assignments and upcoming tests/projects. Please review the agenda messages with your child and sign the agenda each night.

✓ **Progress Reports/Report Cards:** Cartersville Middle School sends home academic reports every four and nine weeks. Please review your child's progress when reports are sent home.

✓ **Resources and materials required for class:**

- ✓ 3 Ring Binder/Notebook Paper/Tab Dividers (binder shared with all subject areas)
- ✓ Composition Book or journal
- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ Multi-Color Highlighters

I look forward to working with you, as well as your child throughout the upcoming year. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jessica.jordan@cartersvilleschools.org or at (770) 382-3666 (Ext: 6284).

Return to Mrs. Jordan

I have reviewed the 6th Grade ELA Syllabus with my student.

Student Name:

Parent Signature:

Printed Name:

Parent/Guardian Email (please print clearly):

Best Phone Number for Contact
