

Questions

Questions for your child's teacher:

- ◆ How can my child obtain extra help in reading?
- ◆ What is taught in 7th grade Language Arts?
- ◆ Can I have a copy of the syllabus outlining the course requirements, homework assignments, tests and projects?
- ◆ How do I obtain updates on my child's progress?
- ◆ What books will be used?
- ◆ What outside reading should my child complete?

Activities for Home

What can I do to help my child

- ◆ Volunteer at your child's school.
- ◆ Create a study schedule at home to reinforce classroom instruction.
- ◆ Make a study area in your home complete with materials needed for homework and studying.
- ◆ Buy educational toys and games.
- ◆ Calculate the final price on a discounted clothing item.
- ◆ Play scrabble and other word games to enhance your child's vocabulary.
- ◆ Encourage your child to read fiction, non fiction, and poetry.
- ◆ Provide opportunities for your child to write about their experiences, thoughts and goals?

A Message from the CMSD

~School Parent Organization~

Dear Families,

This information was created by CMSD families for CMSD families. It is intended to create home and school partnerships to enhance the academic skills of all 7th grade students.

NOTES:



What should my seventh grader learn about ELA?

ACQUISITION OF VOCABULARY

- ◆ Use the surrounding words and how the text is written to understand unknown words.
- ◆ Identify analogies and other word relationships. Ex. up: down, black:white
- ◆ Apply feelings (connotations) associated with words that have been defined (denotations)
- ◆ Find the meaning of unknown words using the history of words, symbols for words and abbreviations.
- ◆ Use suffixes, prefixes, and roots to understand the meaning of words. Ex. un-,pre-, -ed, -ing.
- ◆ Use dictionaries, thesauruses, glossaries, and computer to understand vocabulary.

CONCEPTS OF PRINT, COMPREHENSION STRATEGIES AND SELF-MONITORING STRATEGIES

- ◆ Question before and during reading.
- ◆ Apply writing strategies
 - *a summary of a story
 - *making predictions
 - *comparing information within the story, between different stories, or across subjects
- ◆ Making meaning through asking and responding to a variety of questions related to the stories.

- ◆ Use examples of self-monitoring strategies:
 - *ask questions (“I wonder why....”)
 - *reread
 - *charts (Venn diagram)

INFORMATIONAL, TECHNICAL AND PERSUASIVE TEXT

- ◆ Use parts of the book, internet sites, and pictures to make logical guesses and find information.
- ◆ Look in the story for examples of cause and effect or facts and opinion.
- ◆ Explain how main ideas connect to each other in a variety of sources.
- ◆ Identify arguments and ways to persuade used in nonfiction books.
- ◆ Use different nonfiction books to make conclusions about topics.
- ◆ Check summary of nonfiction story for main ideas.

LITERARY TEXT

- ◆ Describe the characters and their point of view.
- ◆ Explain how the time and place of a story is important.
- ◆ Identify important events and explain how each event leads to the next.
- ◆ Explain the different points of view
 - *first person-the author uses “I”
 - *third person-the author use “he, she, and they”
 - *omniscient point-the author know everything about the story and the characters do not.
- ◆ Demonstrate what you understand by finding the themes, patterns, and symbols.
- ◆ Tell how different types of stories (myths,

WRITING PROCESS

- ◆ Make a list of writing topics and make a purpose appropriate for the audience
- ◆ Determine why you are writing and whom you are writing to and use chart, tables, and diagrams to organize.
- ◆ Use revision strategies to improve the organization, the clarity and consistency of ideas within and among paragraphs and the logic and effectiveness of word choices.
- ◆ Select more effective vocabulary when editing by using a dictionary, thesaurus, and other reference material.
- ◆ Proofread and rewrite paper to improve final draft.
- ◆ Use a writing checklist and rubric for final writing.
- ◆ Write final copy.

WRITING APPLICATIONS

- ◆ Use story telling strategies (e.g. Speaking parts and action to describe characters, plot and settings and to keep the same point of view)
- ◆ Write responses to literature that extend beyond the summary and support judgments through references to the text.
- ◆ Write letters (business letter, letter to the editor, job applications) that are appropriate for the audience with a clearly written purpose.
- ◆ Write nonfiction papers that are clear and accurate that support the main ideas including fact, details, and explanations.
- ◆ Use persuasive strategies including establishing a clear position in support of a proposition or proposal with supporting evidence.

WRITING CONVENTIONS

- ◆ Use correct spelling rules.
- ◆ Use the rules of punctuation and capitalization in written work.
- ◆ Use grammar rules to communicate clearly in writing

RESEARCH

- ◆ Make up research questions to investigate then develop a plan to gather information.
- ◆ Locate and summarize important information from more than one source.
- ◆ Write the information in an organized form.
- ◆ Identify parts of your paper that were copied word for word from a source and list all your sources used.
- ◆ Report on research findings in a written or oral report using technology.

COMMUNICATIONS: ORAL AND VISUAL

- ◆ Listen carefully to be able to summarize the main ideas and draw conclusions from oral presentations and visual media (DVDs, TV, PowerPoint, computers)
- ◆ Explain the point of view of a presenter or a program and any ways they try to convince the audience.
- ◆ Give effective oral presentations by using various word choices and controlling the expression and volume of your voice.
- ◆ Organize information considering the following:
 - *audience *topic *purpose
- ◆ Present information in a reasonable order (introduction, key ideas, conclusion) so the listener can understand.
- ◆ Give presentations using different methods:
 - *charts *diagrams *technology