



Curriculum Night

Language Arts with Mrs. Brock

Welcome!

- Language arts includes reading, writing, grammar, and oral language.
- Our class periods are 54 minutes each (different from 5th grade, which was 1h20m long)

Reading

- Choice reading log
- Rebecca Caudill voting
- Short stories
- Whole class novel studies
- Literature Circles (small group novel studies)
- Reading strategies for fiction and nonfiction

Writing

- Expository writing
- Argumentative Writing (new for them)
- Narrative writing
- Letter writing
- Analytical writing (usually about their reading)

Oral Language/Speech

- Presentations
- African storytelling unit
- Reader's theater
- Participation in class discussions

Grammar

- I aim to integrate grammar into writing as much as possible
- Some worksheets
- Parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc.)
- Parts of a sentence (subjects, predicates, direct objects, etc.)
- Punctuation

Building Stamina in Reading and Writing

- The workload is designed to stretch the kids, not dishearten them.
- A little bit of struggle is good for growth
- Kids will often resist work in general
- Every kid is different and some of them are really good at faking that everything is fine even if it's not. Please encourage them to talk to me if they need help, and if they refuse, please let me know so we can problem-solve.

Homework Load

- Generally I'd expect LA homework to take 20-45 minutes a night (including the reading log) depending on placement. If your child is consistently spending more time than that, this is often a result of taking work home that was supposed to be finished in class, or procrastinating when multiple days were given for an assignment.
- If this is not the case, please let me know.

Late Credit

- To encourage kids to turn work in on time, there are penalties for late work.
- If the assignment is turned in after class or the next day I take off 10%
- After one day, they can get half credit for the remainder of the week.
- After one week, I do not accept the late work because we have moved on in class.

Extra Help

- Students can see me during homeroom or outside of class
- Before school and after school most days, by appointment (please email to confirm availability).
- Lunch time

Contacting Me

Email: ebroock@lfschools.net

Phone: 1-847-295-5459 (classroom phone)

Edmodo messages

Find out More Information: My Weebly Website

- My website: www.mrsbrockla.weebly.com
- This is where I keep all the information that might be used throughout the year, as well as supplementary materials.
- It is a work in progress.
- When possible, I will include the address for a page on my website at the bottom of related Edmodo assignments (access via the planner).
- This helps you find what you need, but you can browse too.

Find out More Information: Edmodo

Edmodo: Check the monthly planner for deadlines.

Ask questions and get answers from the class

Send private messages to the teacher

Powerschool

Powerschool:

- Check for grades, comments, etc.
- Click on the overall trimester grade in a class to see a detailed breakdown.
- When a grade is blue, it means there is a comment associated with it. If you click the link, the comment will pop up.
- If the assignment title is blue, that means it links to a more detailed description

Important Goals for 6th Grade

- Develop self-advocacy skills
 - Encourage kids to ask questions, come in for extra help, email us, etc.
 - If kids are scared to initiate contact, email us to let us know to approach them and start the conversation
 - We are here to help, but we don't want to enable. They need to be an active participant in problem-solving.