

6th Grade

English Language Arts

Key Instructional Activities

- Analyzing how chapters of a book, scenes of a play, or stanzas of a poem fit into the overall structure of the piece and contribute to the development of themes or ideas
- Determining the theme of a text and how the author conveys that theme
- Describing how a narrative unfolds and how characters are developed across the text
- Using a range of reading strategies to determine the correct meaning of a word based on the context in which it is used
- Comparing and contrasting a variety of texts such as poems, stories, historical fiction
- Identifying and evaluating specific claims or arguments in a text
- Presenting claims and findings to others orally, sequencing ideas logically, and accentuating main ideas or themes
- Writing arguments that provide clear reasons and relevant evidence supported by citations from credible sources
- Writing brief informational reports that examine a topic, have a clear focus, and include relevant facts, details, and quotations
- Writing narratives that develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences
- Producing clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience
- Participating in discussions about various texts and topics
- Reviewing and paraphrasing key ideas and multiple perspectives of a speaker
- Conducting short research projects to answer a question, drawing on multiple sources

In addition to stories and literature, today's 6th grader will read more texts that provide facts and background knowledge in areas including science and social studies. They will read more challenging texts and be asked more questions that will require them to refer back to what they have read. There will also be an increased emphasis on building a strong vocabulary so that students can read and understand challenging material.



HOUSTON COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS

By the end of 6th grade, all students are expected to:

- *Use words, patterns in words, and word meanings to read fluently and comprehend effectively;*
- *Apply grade-appropriate language skills in writing;*
- *Self-monitor to correct errors when reading and writing;*
- *Talk with and listen to peers about one's reading and writing to become lifelong readers and writers; and*
- *Use reading and writing to communicate through listening, speaking, and viewing.*

Helping Your Student in 6th Grade ELA

Learning does not end in the classroom. Students need help and support at home to succeed in their studies. Try to create a quiet place for your student to study, and carve out time every day when your student can concentrate on reading and writing uninterrupted by friends, brothers or sisters, or other distractions. Sit down with your student at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your student is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your student needs help with specific topics. By taking these small steps, you will be helping your student become successful both in and outside the classroom.

- Read, read, read! The amount your student reads independently is directly connected to his or her success in school.
- Listen with your student to a television reporter, politician, or other speaker. Ask your student to tell you the speaker's main points. Was the speaker trying to convince the audience of something? How?
- Visit a library or bookstore together and ask the librarian or bookseller to recommend young adult books. To find popular young adult books for your student to read, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y3rjcelh>.
- Make time for conversation at home. Discuss current events, shared interests, and future aspirations for education and career.
- Invite your student to participate in an adult gathering, such as a meal with friends, to practice listening skills and making conversation.
- Practice determining meanings of unknown words when you encounter them in written texts, television shows, radio, etc.
- Provide time and space for your student to read independently. This time should be free from distractions such as television.
- Ask your student what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Then look for books, magazines, or other materials about those topics that would motivate your student to read.
- It is also helpful when your student sees other people reading at home. You could share what you have read.
- Visit museums, zoos, theaters, historical sites, aquariums, and other educational places to help increase your student's exposure to new knowledge and vocabulary.
- Use technology to help build your student's interest in reading. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions.



6th ELA System Pacing Overview



This guide provides an overview of what your student will learn in his or her 6th Grade English Language Arts course. It focuses on the key skills your student will learn, which will build a strong foundation for success in the other subjects studied throughout middle school. This guide is based on the state-adopted Georgia Standards of Excellence.

<p>1st 6 weeks</p> <p>Essential Question: What are ways you can make yourself heard?</p>	<p>2nd 6 weeks</p> <p>Essential Question: What keeps people from giving up?</p>	<p>3rd 6 weeks</p> <p>Essential Question: How do you find courage in the face of fear?</p>
<p>Performance Goal: Developing an argument essay</p>	<p>Performance Goal: Developing a narrative essay</p>	<p>Performance Goal: Developing an informational essay</p>
<p>Learning Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Argument • Analyzing Text Structure and Purpose • Analyzing Memoir • Analyzing Informational Texts • Analyzing Print and Graphic Features • Author's Use of Language • Purpose and Point of View • Analyzing Figurative Language • Making Inferences about Tone and Speaker • Trace and Evaluate an Argument • Determine an Author's Purpose • Compare and Evaluate Arguments • Connotation and Denotation • Word Origins • Commas and Sentence Variety • Word Origins • Pronouns • Context Clues • Spelling Commonly Confusing Words Correctly <p>Vocabulary Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate • Authority • Consequence • Element • Justify 	<p>Learning Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonfiction Narrative Writing • Analyzing Features of Informational Texts • Generating Questions • Analyzing Poetic Forms • Making Inferences About Theme • Analyzing Plot and Character • Analyzing Setting • Greek and Latin Roots • Thesaurus Skills • Capitalization • Sentence Patterns <p>Vocabulary Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve • Individual • Instance • Outcome • Principle 	<p>Learning Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Informative Essays • Analyzing Character and Plot • Analyzing Character and Setting • Explaining Speaker • Analyzing Structure: Repetition and Refrain • Citing Evidence • Determining Meanings • Making Inferences • Comparing Across Genres • Analyzing Structure of Informational Texts • Determining Key Ideas • Comparing Presentation of Events • Parts of Speech • Prefixes That Mean "Not" • Synonyms and Antonyms • Context Clues • Multiple-Meaning Words • Capitalization of Proper Nouns • Dashes • Commas • Varying Sentence Patterns • Adverbs and Adverb Clauses • Transitions and Commas <p>Vocabulary Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evident • Factor • Indicate • Similar • Specific

<p align="center">4th 6 weeks</p> <p align="center">Essential Question: What can you learn from seeing the world through an animal's eyes?</p>	<p align="center">5th 6 weeks</p> <p align="center">Essential Question: What does it take to be a survivor?</p>	<p align="center">6th 6 weeks</p> <p align="center">Essential Question: What hidden truths about people and the world are revealed in stories?</p>
<p align="center">Performance Goal: Developing an argument essay</p>	<p align="center">Performance Goal: Developing an informational essay</p>	<p align="center">Performance Goal: Developing a narrative essay</p>
<p>Learning Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argument Writing • Analyzing Point of View • Analyzing Word Choice • Inferring Theme • Analyzing Text Structure • Analyzing Central Ideas • Analyzing Personification and Imagery • Paraphrasing • Comparing Themes • Analyzing Argument • Evaluating Argument • Comparing Arguments • Greek and Latin Roots • Word Origins • Complex Sentences • Verb Tenses • Pronouns <p>Vocabulary Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit • Distinct • Environment • Illustrate • Respond 	<p>Learning Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informational Writing • Analyzing Setting and Character • Analyzing Structure • Integrating Information from Media • Determining Author's Purpose and Point of View • Determining Meanings of Words and Phrases • Analyzing Free Verse • Analyzing Figurative Language • Analyzing Language • Comparing Across Genres • Vocabulary Resources • Context Clues • Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases • Commas • Pronouns <p>Vocabulary Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circumstance • Constraint • Impact • Injure • Significant 	<p>Learning Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Narrative Short Story • Analyzing Informational Text • Analyzing Central Ideas • Analyzing Elements of Drama • Analyzing Theme • Analyzing Poetic Forms • Analyzing Allusions • Comparing Poems • Analyzing Plot • Explaining Narrator and Point of View • Analyzing Purpose and Text Structure • Comparing Themes • Context Clues • Vocabulary Resources • Word Structure • Complex Sentences • Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases • Quotations Marks • Adverbs and Adjectives <p>Vocabulary Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize • Occur • Period • Relevant • Tradition