



Grade 6 English Language Arts

Major Learning Targets for This Grade

Reading

- Students will gain knowledge from materials that make extensive use of elaborate diagrams and data to convey information and illustrate concepts.
- Students will evaluate the argument and specific claims in written materials or speeches, and distinguish claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
- Students will read closely and cite evidence from grade-level fiction and nonfiction to support an analysis of what the materials say.

Writing

- Students will write brief reports that examine a topic, have a clear focus, and include relevant facts, details, and quotations.
- Students will conduct short research projects to answer a question, draw on several sources and sharpen the focus based on the research findings.

Language

- Students will determine the correct meaning of a word based on the context in which it is used (e.g., the rest of the sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence).
- Students will develop a rich vocabulary of complex and sophisticated words and use them to speak and write more precisely and coherently.

Speaking and Listening

- Students will present claims and findings to others orally, sequence ideas logically, and accentuate main ideas or themes.
- Students will review and paraphrase key ideas and multiple perspectives of a speaker.



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College, Career, and Life Readiness

Students will be working to develop the following capabilities of a literate individual:

- Demonstrate independence.
- Build strong content knowledge.
- Respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- Comprehend as well as critique.
- Value evidence.
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

How Can I Support My Child?

1. Read with Your Child

- Read the same story or novel separately and discuss it together.
- Practice reading difficult text out loud until your child no longer stumbles over words.
- After your child reads, have them verbally summarize the main ideas and details to you.

2. Build on Language in Everyday Life

- Keep a running list of difficult vocabulary words and their meanings. Include words your child is learning in other subjects such as science and social studies.

3. Monitor Independent Reading Choices

- Make sure your child is challenging themselves.
- Make sure they are transitioning from early reader books with only a few words on the page, to longer books with chapters.

4. Play Word Games like Scrabble and Hangman

- Or, find fun word games online.

5. Introduce and Read Informational and Non-fiction Materials

- Read items such as instructions, mail or maps together.
- Discuss the difference between facts and opinions.

6. Encourage Research

- When your child asks questions, ask them to think about where they might find the answer.

For more information, visit scusd.edu/ela or contact Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu, ELA Coordinator

SCUSD's Vision for Instruction and Assessment: *As a community of learners, we strive to create positive and engaging environments where a rigorous, student-centered curriculum is central. Teachers use inquiry-based instruction and formative assessment practices to support ALL learners in maturing socially and in becoming disciplinary thinkers.*