

# 6th Grade ELA

**Mrs. Griswold**

Email: [griswoldj@leonschools.net](mailto:griswoldj@leonschools.net)

Remind: @Griswold-(your class period)

## Course Description

Sixth-grade language arts students will be immersed in reading and writing activities this year, using the **Florida Study Sync** curriculum and selected novels. Students will read selections from various genres, including novels, short stories, plays, biographies, poetry, etc. Students will analyze these works and synthesize their understanding through classroom discussions, collaborative activities, quizzes, and writing assignments, including argumentative, informative, and narrative writing.

This language arts course focuses on the **English Language Arts Florida B.E.S.T. Standards**, which stresses the importance of students reading, understanding, summarizing, and comparing all types of texts. We will spend time building oral communication skills and presentation skills to build confidence while presenting information. Students will be guided through each step of the writing process, with the goal of producing thoughtful finished products that reflect the writing and grammar skills they build. Reading and writing are integrated and will be taught in tandem.

## Grading and Evaluation

**70%** Tests, Quizzes, & Projects  
**30%** Classwork & Homework

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = 0% - 59%

Grades will be updated in **FOCUS** weekly. Assignments marked with a "Z" are missing and may still be made up for partial credit. The lowest classwork/homework grade of the nine-weeks grading period will be dropped.

## Absent/Late Work

**1st Semester:** Late classwork and homework may be submitted for a penalty of 10% per day

**2nd Semester:** Late work may be submitted up to two days late but will receive a 50% penalty and a 0% if three or more days late.

**Tests** may be retaken if the grade is a D or F. However, the new grade will not be higher than 70%.

**Excused Absences** will be given the number of days missed plus one day to complete missing work.

**Planned absences** should be communicated in advance to minimize make-up work upon return.

## Communication

**Student/Teacher Communication:** Students should **only** communicate with the teacher in person or through their LCS-issued email address.

**Parent/Teacher Communication:** Parents should contact me through email, Remind app messages, or by calling the school directly.

## Class Supplies

To be successful, students should come to class each day with the following items:

- Planner
- Charged Chromebook
- Composition notebook
- Three-pronged folder
- A Novel (for independent reading)
- Earbuds/headphones
- Sharpened pencils
- Blue & red pens
- Highlighters
- Colored pencils
- Notebook paper

## Plagiarism and Artificial Intelligence Policy

All work that students turn in must be their own. Students should not give information to another student to copy or use another student's work to complete their assignments. Sometimes, a group project will be assigned, and information will be shared, but exceptions will be clarified. Plagiarism will result in a zero for all parties involved and parent notification. Multiple occurrences will result in disciplinary action.

Students should not use artificial intelligence (ChatGPT or any other large language model) to complete any part of the coursework for this class. According to the plagiarism policy above, work completed using AI will be treated as plagiarism.

## Classroom Rules and Behavior

**Students are expected to** be respectful, keep their hands to themselves, follow directions, be prepared, stay on task, and take care of school property.

Students **may not use cell phones** on campus from 8:45 A.M. through 4:50 P.M. Phones should stay turned off and in the student's backpack.

**Water is the only drink allowed** in class. Food is also prohibited, except during special events or approved cases.

**Sign below to indicate you have read and understand our class expectations.**

Student  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*This document should be at the front of your folder, all year!\*\*\***