



FARNSWORTH FILES

7th Grade ELA Quarterly Newsletter

The Home of Future Leaders

NOVEMBER 2023 | VOL.14

TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION

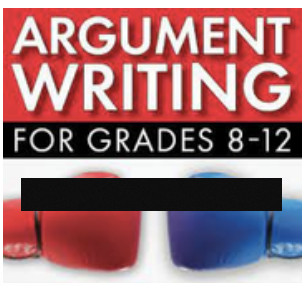
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ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7

This quarter, ELA7 will focus on **nonfiction reading and writing**. Specifically, we will develop essential researching skills at the start of the quarter. We will then create infographics based on this research work, and develop debating skills while writing a detailed argument essay stemming from their infographic and research. Students will end the quarter with checklisting and revising their rough draft essay work into final draft format.



Essential Research Skills

What is an Infographic?

BIG PICTURE Present information.	SUMMARY Report facts.	EXPLORE Investigate a topic.
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IMAGES SUMMARIZE FACTS

- Simple icons represent data. **90% IMAGES**
- Graphs and diagrams illustrate information.
- Maps pinpoint location.

WHY USE IT?

- Attract attention.
- Engage viewer to think.
- Makes information clear.
- Quick way to share facts.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Facts are organized in chunks.
- ABC: Text is used for labels or short descriptions.
- Numbers emphasize important facts.
- Images are icons, not photos.

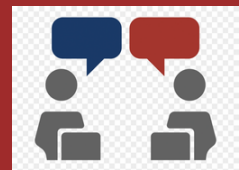


SPED UPDATES...

If your student is receiving SPED support, feel free to contact the SPED teacher listed above with any questions or concerns.

ELL UPDATES...

If your student is receiving ELL support, feel free to contact the ELL teacher listed above with any questions or concerns.



How to Write an Argument

- ✓ **Collect** evidence that allows you to think through various sides of an argument
- ✓ **Rehearse** by explaining your positions and listing your reasons point by point
- ✓ **Plan your claim** and reasons into boxes-and-bullets structure

WINTER FAST TESTING FOR READING IS COMING UP!

BACK IN SEPTEMBER, STUDENTS COMPLETED OUR FALL READING FAST TESTING FOR THE DISTRICT.

AS WINTER APPROACHES, STUDENTS WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN OUR MID-YEAR READING EVALUATIONS IN JANUARY.

PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO DO THEIR BEST ON THESE FAST TESTS, SO THAT WE CAN ACCURATELY GAUGE READING LEVELS AND COMPREHENSION ABILITIES.



WEEKLY READING LOG SAMPLE

WEEK 1: NOVEMBER 12-18		BOOK TITLE	MINUTES READ	PAGES READ
11/12	Friday			
11/13	Saturday			
11/14	Sunday			
11/15	Monday			
11/16	Tuesday			
11/17	Wednesday			
11/18	Thursday			



READING AT HOME

Reading at home for **30 minutes each day** is a continued expectation for 7th grade students. There is no shortage of reading material available to students. In addition to physical books, students have access to multiple apps on their iPads with digital books. All reading logs and login information are linked in ELA7 classes in Schoology for students. Please be encouraging students to work toward this 30 minute reading goal each day as it will help to improve comprehension skills and boost testing scores.

GRADING & HOMEWORK

All classwork, practice, and assessments (projects, tests, quizzes, performances) will be graded according to proficiency on the Common Core Standards. Students will receive a score of 0 - 4.

- 0 - incomplete
- 1 - beginning
- 2 - developing
- 3 - proficient
- 4 - exceeds

**** A score of 0 - 2 can be redone until the student reaches a score of at least 3 (within the designated quarter).**

Grades are weighted:
20% - classwork
80% - assessments

QUARTER 2 EXTENDS FROM NOVEMBER 13, 2023 TO JANUARY 25, 2024



APPS & WEBSITES FOR READING ONLINE:

- Epic
- MackinVia
- LibraryGo
- eBooks MN
- TeenBookCloud
- TumbleBooks Library
- Audiobooks & Podcasts
- St. Paul Public Library Overdrive



For more resources, visit:
<https://libguides.spps.org/mssterm>



UPCOMING UNITS OF STUDY

QUARTER 3
Historical Fiction Book Clubs
Writing About Reading

QUARTER 4
Poetry

