



FARNSWORTH FILES

7th Grade ELA Quarterly Newsletter

The Home of Future Leaders

APRIL 2024 | VOLUME 16

TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Marea Merrill

marea.merrill@spps.org
(651) 293-8880 x45060

CO-TEACHERS: [Rachel Rollins \(SPED\)](#), [Erik Reynolds \(ELL\)](#)

rachelrollins2@spps.org
(651) 419-0772

erik.reynolds@spps.org
(651) 419-6663

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7

ELA7 will focus entirely on **reading and writing poetry** for quarter 4. Students will delve into poetry comprehension by following a reading pattern that builds understanding. Studying the use of figurative language in poetry, especially symbolism, will be highlighted in the unit. We will discuss how noticing small details helps to develop an overall understanding of the genre and of specific poems. Students will also spend a large chunk of the unit writing different types of poetry. We will also study poetic structures and elements. We will conclude the unit with a poetry writing project that showcases the artistic work of students from the quarter.



poetry books
kids love



SPED UPDATES...

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

ELL UPDATES...

Access Testing for ELL students will be done during early Q3. Please contact your ELL teacher if you have any questions.



MCA TESTING

IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO DO THEIR BEST ON THE MCA READING ASSESSMENT, WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILD IN THESE WAYS AT HOME:

- ENSURE YOUR CHILD GETS A GOOD AMOUNT OF SLEEP DURING THE TESTING WEEK
- SUPPORT YOUR CHILD BY PROVIDING HEALTHY AND SUSTAINING MEALS
- PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH A PEACEFUL SCHEDULE AT HOME AND MAKE SURE THEY GET TO SCHOOL ON TIME
- SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH POSITIVE AFFIRMATIONS ON HOW THEY TAKE THE TEST. ENCOURAGE THEM TO DO THEIR BEST!



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 4 EXTENDS FROM
APRIL 1, 2024 TO
JUNE 10, 2024

TIME FOR SUMMER READING!

What will you be reading this summer?

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>

