

Language Arts Curriculum for Emmanuel Lutheran School Asheville, North Carolina

Philosophy

Language Arts skills are needed to effectively participate in a democratic society. They are also needed as a Christian participates in the reading of God's Word and the expression of one's faith. Reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills enable one to acquire knowledge from printed materials and oral presentations, profess beliefs and opinions fluidly, and communicate with others effectively.

Goals

1. Students will develop skills in **Writing**, which include penmanship, written expression, and the writing process.
2. Students will develop skills in **Listening Skills and Oral Communication**, which will provide an ongoing framework of communication.
3. Students will develop skills in **Language Patterns**, which include proper spelling, grammar, and usage of the written and spoken English language.
4. Students will develop skills in **Reading Comprehension**, which expose them to a variety of texts, enable them to gain meaning from print, and apply critical thinking skills to written information.
5. Students will develop skills in **Media**, which will provide them opportunities to apply reading and writing skills acquired within today's technological world.

**Objectives for each grade level include references to the Integrating the Faith (IF) and North Carolina State Standards for Education.*

LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM

KINDERGARTEN

Oral Communication

1. Repeats and recites material such as prayers, pledge, days of the week, months of the year, seasons. (IF)
2. Participates in oral exercises such as Show & Tell, role-playing, etc.
3. Communicates with courtesy.
4. Answers questions and expresses self in complete sentences.
5. Participates in singing songs, chants, and finger play.
6. Contributes to class discussions.
7. Retells a story
8. Describes contents of a picture
9. Recites name, address, and phone number
10. Substitutes words in a rhyming pattern

Written Communication

1. Develops fine motor skills through manipulatives such as playing, cutting, tracing, copying, coloring, gluing, & painting
2. Expresses own ideas through experience charts and drawing pictures
3. Demonstrates correct posture, paper placement, line placement and ability to hold a writing tool correctly
4. Constructs upper & lower case letters
5. Copy words and simple sentences
6. Dictates a story or a sequence of events to be written down by an adult
7. Expresses ideas with alternative spelling patterns
8. Determines left-right progression of the printed word & word boundaries
9. Writes first and last name with correct letter formation

Auditory Communication

1. Recognizes auditory similarities & differences.
2. Listens attentively and follows directions.
3. Follows 2 and 3 step directions.
4. Discriminates letter/sound correspondence.
5. Identifies short and long vowel sounds
6. Listens to a variety of literary forms for appreciation and comprehension.

Visual Communication

1. Recognizes visual similarities and differences
2. Identifies upper case and lower case letters.
3. Identifies print in the environment (logos, labels, names).
4. Identifies color words, number words (0-12), and high frequency/ sight words.
5. Identifies first and last name.
6. Identifies names of classmates.
7. Identifies names of God, and Jesus (IF)

Word and Language Patterns

1. Demonstrates ABC order orally & in writing
2. Recognizes that letters have two forms-upper & lower case Aa-Zz
3. Identifies consonants & vowels
4. Recognizes that letters make a word and that a space is between words
5. Identifies beginning, middle, and ending sounds and associates them to letters.
6. Hears & counts syllables in words
7. Recognizes rhyming words and alliterations in oral/written form
8. Recognizes opposites

9. Recognizes and uses name words (nouns), action (verbs) and descriptive words adjectives
10. Recognizes capitalization and punctuation (period, question & explanation mark)
11. Distinguishes between telling & asking sentences
12. Reads consonant – vowel – consonant words
13. Begins to blend vowel sounds with consonants to read

Literature – Strategic Thinking

1. Identifies the parts of a book: title-cover, author, illustrator, copyright, dedication, spine and end papers
2. Follows words left to right and top to bottom on a printed page
3. Demonstrates familiarity with a variety of types of books (i.e. picture books, short informational books, nursery rhymes, fairy tales, bible stories) (IF)
4. Identifies differences between fiction and non-fiction and applies to stories.
5. Recalls the basic elements of a story: characters, setting, and main idea
6. Recalls details of a story
7. Relates events in sequence: beginning, middle, end
8. Predicts outcomes, answers questions, retells stories, and draws conclusions
9. Compare and contrast literature.
10. Responds to stories through art projects, masks, puppets, story drawings
11. Interacts for at least 10 minutes daily with self-selected texts that are consistent with student's independent reading level.

Media/Technology

1. Utilizes a map to identify the concepts of geographic story settings
2. Demonstrates ability to engage in age-appropriate computer software
3. Participates in library story time & library system
4. Demonstrates ability to listen attentively at the listening center and at video presentations
5. Reinforces language development through magazines, newspapers, big books, flannel boards, & puppets
6. Demonstrates proper care, usage of library books, and behavior in library
7. Participates in and/or experiences various forms of the fine arts such as plays, story telling & dance
8. Recognizes the concepts of geographic story telling

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Classifies and compares objects
2. Interprets visual cues
3. Determines cause and effect relationships
4. Infers conclusions
5. Develops fundamental organizational skills
6. Demonstrates ability to work independently
7. Participates in brainstorming activities
8. Develops problem-solving techniques

Language Arts

Grade 1

Oral Communication

1. Participates in class discussions and oral activities

2. Communicates with courtesy
3. Answers questions and expresses self in complete sentences
4. Demonstrates correct enunciation and intonations in voice when reading.
5. Reads orally with fluency and expression
6. Retells a story using paraphrase
7. Participates in choral reading
8. Discuss unfamiliar vocabulary
9. Recites poems, prayers, pledges, bible verses and worship songs. (IF)
10. Dramatizes a bible story (IF)

Written Communication

1. Demonstrates correct formation of all letters
2. Capitalize first word in a sentence and proper names
3. Demonstrates correct use of upper case letters, ending punctuation, and spacing within simple sentences in handwriting and word processing
4. Writes own ideas using correct spelling patterns
5. Writes words using correct spacing & spelling on paper and when using the computer
6. Copies sentences, stories or poems
7. Writes and illustrates individual stories and illustrates creative ideas and journals
8. Writes using the four kinds of sentences (Declarative, Interrogative, Exclamatory, Imperative.)
9. Uses a writing process to publish own works—prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, publishing
10. Writes details from a picture accurately
11. Write an alternate ending to a story
12. Uses literary (i.e. predictable texts) and poetic forms and patterns (i.e. diamarks) to create own works of prose or poetry
13. Writes clearly about what is read
14. Completes graphic organizers
15. Organizes ideas to present a simple report, an explanation or give directions

Auditory Communication

1. Recognizes auditory similarities and differences.
2. Listens attentively and follows directions
3. Listens for specific details.
4. Counts syllables in a word
5. Demonstrates letter/sound correspondence
6. Listens to a variety of literary forms for appreciation and comprehension
7. Demonstrates phonetic knowledge of beginning, medial, and ending sounds
8. Identifies blends, clusters, and digraph sounds
9. Identifies short and long vowel sounds
10. Identifies rhyming words

Visual Communication

1. Recognizes visual similarities and differences
2. Recognizes high frequency words
3. Employs context clues from print and picture to augment comprehension
4. Recalls sequence and characterization of story or experience
5. Demonstrates use of graphs, charts, webs, maps and diagrams to interpret and record

6. Demonstrates ability to blend and decode words

Word & Language Patterns

1. Identifies consonants & vowels
2. Alphabetizes words by the first letter
3. Constructs rimes/word families in written form
4. Reads short and long vowel sound words Identifies synonyms, antonyms, and homophones
5. Identifies complete sentence vs. fragment – written & oral
6. Recognizes and uses nouns, verbs, adjectives & pronouns
7. Uses appropriate verb tense in writing and speaking
8. Identifies the root word to which an ending has been added
9. Identifies words in the glossary or dictionary and applies them correctly in sentences
10. Identifies text vocabulary
11. Identifies contractions
12. Identifies compound words
13. Demonstrates correct use of possessives
14. Identifies synonyms, homonyms, antonyms, homophones

Literature – Strategic Thinking

8. Organizes pictures and sentences for sequence: first, next, last
 1. Identifies parts of a book and uses the table of contents correctly.
 2. Describes the role of author and illustrator
 3. Recognizes an author's style and technique
 4. Recognizes a variety of literary forms
 5. Identifies differences of fiction and non-fiction
 6. Identifies characters, setting, plot, main idea, and details
 7. Predicts outcomes, answers questions, retells stories, and draws conclusions
 8. Organizes pictures and sentences for sequence: first, next, last
 9. Re-reads and self-corrects
 10. Interacts for at least 15 minutes daily with self-selected texts that are consistent with the student's independent reading level.

Media/Technology

1. Uses reading software
2. Uses computer to transcribe own written work; prints out or saves for own use or for others
3. Demonstrates the correct use of media center age-appropriate software to find information
4. Demonstrates use of appropriate keys to insert letters and/or words
5. Demonstrates ability to engage in age-appropriate computer software for reinforcement of curriculum skills
6. Participates in library system & computer lab
7. Demonstrates ability to listen attentively to audio tapes, video presentations
8. Reinforces language development through magazines, newspapers, & books
9. Demonstrates proper care, usage of library books, and behavior in library & computer lab
10. Participates in and/or experiences various forms of the fine arts such as plays, story telling, singing and dance
11. Shows an awareness of geographic story settings on a map or globe

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Classifies and categorizes words, pictures, objects and ideas
2. Interprets clues to determine context
3. Determines cause and effect relationships
4. Draws conclusions
5. Develops fundamental organizational skills
6. Demonstrates ability to work independently
7. Participates in brainstorming activities
8. Demonstrates ability of test taking techniques
9. Follows directions written/oral independently
10. Develops problem-solving techniques

Language Arts Grade 2

Oral Communication

1. Participates in class discussions and oral activities such as book reports, choral readings, poetry recital, etc.
2. Communicates with courtesy and clarity
3. Answers questions and expresses self in complete sentences
4. Reads orally at grade level with fluency and expression
5. Retells a story
6. Demonstrates an ability to present information to large groups (e.g. plays, role playing & reports)
7. Answers questions on story content
8. Speaks in good progression from beginning, middle, end
9. Uses correct verb tenses in oral communication
10. Recites prayers, worship songs, Bible verses, and pledges. (IF)

Written Communication

1. Writes about what is read
2. Demonstrates correct formation of all manuscript letters
3. Expresses own ideas in complete sentences
4. Spells correctly using previously studied words, spelling patterns, and analysis of sounds to represent all the sounds in a word
5. Demonstrates use of capitals, ending punctuation, and spacing within a simple sentence in handwriting/computers.
6. Copies neatly & correctly from chart/board or book
7. Demonstrates using the writing process: brainstorming, pre-writing, re-reading, editing, revising, publishing
8. Writes paragraph with topic sentence & detail sentences
9. Recognizes and practices the correct form of thank you notes, & invitations
10. Demonstrates an ability to express ideas in the forms of creative writing, poetry, journals, stories.

11. Writes a story with a beginning, middle, end
12. Demonstrates ability to use sequence
13. Identifies topic, main idea, supporting details
14. Identifies and writes cursive letters properly
15. Recognizes editing marks: spelling, capitalization, punctuation & paragraphing
16. Uses editing to check and confirm complete sentences and correct word order in sentences.
17. Identifies literary/poetic forms and patterns to create own works of prose or poetry

Auditory Communication

1. Demonstrates appropriate intonations & enunciation
2. Demonstrates ability to follow oral & written directions
3. Listens to a variety of literary forms for exposure and comprehension
4. Demonstrates phonetic knowledge of beginning, middle, & ending sounds
5. Recognizes consonant blends, digraphs, diphthongs & long & short vowels
6. Identifies rhyming words
7. Recalls sequence, characterization, setting & details of a story from reading or listening
8. Demonstrates ability to summarize a story

Visual Communication

1. Recognizes sight vocabulary & high frequency words and many irregularly spelled words
2. Employs context clues to aid comprehension
3. Demonstrates use of graphs, charts, webs, maps, & diagrams to interpret & record
4. Recognizes words that contain r and l controlled vowels (i.e. combinations and final stable syllables (Saxon terminology)
5. Demonstrates ability to read words with unstressed vowel sound schwa
6. Distinguishes between important & unimportant details

Word and Language Patterns

1. Identifies consonants & vowels
2. Alphabetizes words to the third letter
3. Constructs rhyming words in word families
4. Identifies and discerns between synonyms, antonyms, & homophones
5. Recognizes vowel sounds & counts syllables in a word
6. Identifies root words and adds endings, forms regular plurals
7. Identifies prefixes & suffixes
8. Identifies compound words and contractions
9. Identifies text vocabulary
10. Identifies “special” endings to words i.e. doubling final consonant
11. Recognizes common spelling patterns based on sound-letter relationships
12. Identifies words in the glossary and dictionary and uses them correctly in Sentences
13. Recognizes and uses nouns, verbs, adjectives & pronouns.
14. Recognizes and constructs the four simple sentence types: statement, question, exclamation, command.
15. Identifies parts of a sentence – subject and predicate.
16. Identifies grammatically correct patterns in speech & writing (i.e. subject/verb agreement, verb tense)
17. Organizes sentences in sequential order.

18. Replaces nouns with correct pronoun.
19. Organizes paragraphs in sequential order.

Literature – Strategic Thinking

1. Predicts outcomes, answers questions, retells stories, and draws conclusions
2. Reads and comprehends text by determining purpose, locating information, recognizing and applying text structure, determining fact and opinion, making inferences, and drawing conclusions
3. Identifies characters, setting, plot, main idea, and details
4. Describes the role of author and illustrator and recognizes styles and techniques
5. Reads classic and current literature in groups and independently
6. Recognizes a variety of literary forms
7. Classifies a piece of literature as fiction or non-fiction
8. Derives meaning from context clues to predict outcomes.
9. Interacts for at least 20 minutes daily with self-selected texts that are consistent with the student's independent reading level

Media/Technology

1. Participates in library system
2. Demonstrates ability to listen attentively to audio tapes & video presentations
3. Uses touch type and common function keys including return, spacebar, delete, backspace, and shift
4. Reinforces language development through magazines, newspapers, & books
5. Demonstrates proper care, usage of library books, and behavior in library
6. Participates and/or experiences various forms of the fine arts such as plays, storytelling, singing & dance
7. Utilizes the parts of a book
8. Utilizes maps, globe, charts, & graphs
9. Designs/creates visual presentations using a variety of different media
10. Demonstrates keyboarding skills and introduces word processing skills
11. Demonstrates correct keyboarding posture and finger placement
12. Demonstrates computer skills by locating and using special function keys
13. Copies words and sentences from a model onto computer
14. Demonstrates ability to engage in age-appropriate computer software for reinforcement of curriculum skills
15. Utilizes library visits to develop lifelong reading enjoyment
16. Utilizes reference materials

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Develops problem-solving techniques
2. Classifies and categorizes words, pictures, objects and ideas
3. Interprets clues to determine context
4. Determines cause and effect relationships
5. Draws conclusions
6. Develops fundamental organizational skills
7. Demonstrates ability to work independently and in a group
8. Recognizes a table of contents, index, and glossary
9. Utilizes comparisons
10. Applies critical thinking skills to technology

11. Demonstrates ability to compare and contrast

Language Arts

Grade 3

Oral Communication

1. Participates in class discussions and oral presentations (e.g. book reports, choral readings, & role playing)
2. Communicates with courtesy, clarity & correct grammar
3. Answers questions and expresses self effectively in complete sentences
4. Reads orally at grade level, with fluency & expression
5. Retells and summarizes a story
6. Demonstrates an ability to present information to a large group (e.g. plays, role playing & reports)
7. Demonstrates questioning techniques
8. Participates in cooperative group discussions with respect for peer opinions & evaluation
9. Demonstrates ability to receive and follow instructions when given in a large group
10. Participates in learning games
11. Explains what has been read
12. Relates plot, setting, and characters to own experiences
13. Describes the main character's point of view
14. Discuss similarities and differences of events using support by referencing the text.
15. Answer open ended questions.
16. Recites prayers and bible verses. (IF)
17. Participates in worship songs. (IF)

Written Communication

1. Writes about what has been read
2. Demonstrates correct formation of all letters in manuscript and cursive
3. Expresses own ideas in complete sentences and paragraphs
4. Demonstrates use of capitalization and punctuation
5. Demonstrates spacing and forming paragraphs in handwriting and word processing forms
6. Copies neatly and correctly from the chart/board or book
7. Demonstrates the ability to write a well-formed paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting detail & conclusion in a variety of genres (e.g. informative, narrative, instruction)
8. Recognizes & practices the correct form of friendly letters, thank you notes, invitations, book reports, and personal narrative
9. Demonstrates ability to gather facts for research on a given topic
10. Communicates expressive language through journals, plays, poetry, stories, reports, experience stories & imaging
11. Organizes thoughts to write effectively the beginning, middle, and end of an original narrative
12. Demonstrates the steps of the writing process, including prewriting, drafting, sharing, reusing, editing, final drafting, and publishing
13. Creates an advertisement
14. Demonstrates cursive writing skills
15. Recognizes editing marks: spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paragraphing

16. Uses literary and poetic forms, word patterns in works of prose and poetry
17. Identify (with assistance) the purpose and the audience for the written task.

Auditory Communication

1. Utilizes effective listening skills
2. Demonstrates appropriate intonations & enunciation
3. Demonstrates ability to listen and follow oral & written direction
4. Recognizes visual & oral cues for following directions
5. Listens and reads a variety of literary forms for appreciation & comprehension
6. Recognizes and interprets phonetic sounds for decoding
7. Employs context clues and illustrations to aid comprehension
8. Recalls sequence, characterization, setting, main idea, & details of a story from reading or listening
9. Utilizes audio visual equipment to record & tape reports, skits, plays, poems, etc.
10. Actively listen by: facing speaker, making eye contact, and asking questions to clarify meaning.

Visual Communication

1. Demonstrates use of graphs, charts, webs, maps, & diagrams to interpret & record.
2. Demonstrates use of dictionary/glossary through use of guide words, entry words, pronunciation key.
3. Uses visual cues to make predictions in readings
4. Organizes thoughts in visual representations such as graphic organizers

Word and Language Patterns

1. Identifies and uses all consonants & vowels
2. Alphabetizes words to the third or fourth letter.
3. Recognizes and uses nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns and adverbs
4. Recognizes & uses synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, homophones, homographs, & multiple meanings
5. Recognizes common spelling patterns based on sound-letter relationships & word structures
6. Recognizes and applies syllabication rules for decoding & spelling
7. Identifies the root words, prefixes & suffixes and their meanings
8. Forms regular/irregular plurals, verb tenses, compound words, contractions, & abbreviations
9. Recognizes possessives
10. Identifies and uses text vocabulary
11. Uses alliteration
12. Identifies words in the dictionary and transfers their use correctly in sentences
13. Constructs the four simple sentence types – statement, question, command, exclamation
14. Identifies subject & predicate
15. Uses grammatically correct patterns in speech (subject/verb agreement, verb tense)
16. Organizes sentences and paragraphs in sequential order
17. Substitutes nouns for pronouns and pronouns for nouns
18. Uses correct capitalization of proper nouns.
19. Uses correct punctuation including commas, periods, apostrophes, underline book titles, and abbreviations.
20. Writes a paragraph including topic sentence, 3 supporting details, logical sequence, closing

sentence.

21. Proofreads own writing correcting misspellings using reference sources dictionaries, glossaries, word walls, thesaurus.
22. Create readable documents using legible cursive writing making all letters correctly.

Literature – Strategic Thinking

1. Predicts outcomes, answers questions, retells stories, and draws conclusions
2. Distinguishes a variety of literary styles
3. Identifies characterization, setting, plot, theme, problem, and solution
4. Describes the role of author and illustrator and recognizes styles and techniques
5. Reads classic and current literature in groups and independently
6. Re-reads and self-corrects
7. Identifies the parts of a book
8. Recognizes a variety of literary forms, including fiction, nonfiction, historical fiction, fantasy, realistic fiction, and poetry
9. Classifies a piece of literature as fiction or non-fiction
10. Interacts for at least 20 minutes daily with self-selected texts that are consistent with the student's independent reading level
11. Use metacognitive strategies to aid in comprehending text by: setting a purpose, previewing the text, making predictions, asking questions, making connections, and using story structure.
12. Identify and interpret elements of fiction and non-fiction by referencing the text to determine: author's purpose, plot, conflict, sequence, resolution, main idea, supporting details, cause and effect, fact and opinion, point of view, use of figurative language.

Media/Technology

1. Demonstrates ability to engage in age-appropriate computer software for reinforcement of curriculum skills
2. Participates in library system & computer lab
3. Demonstrates ability to listen attentively to audio tapes, video presentations & PowerPoint presentations in lab
4. Reinforces language development through magazines, newspapers, & books, computer programs & Internet
5. Demonstrates proper care, usage of library books, and behavior in library & computer lab
6. Recognizes call numbers & locates books in the library
7. Demonstrates a basic understanding of the Dewey Decimal System
8. Recognizes electronic references as a source of information
9. Acquires knowledge of and utilizes resource materials including dictionary, encyclopedia, thesaurus, atlas & electronic sources
10. Designs/creates visual presentations using a variety of different media
11. Demonstrates keyboarding skills and word processing skills
12. Utilizes library visits to develop lifelong reading enjoyment
13. Creates a new document, opens, names, saves, closes, exits, moves, renames and reopens personal files.
14. Demonstrates proficiency in independent use of school library on-line catalogs to find information
15. Demonstrates home row keyboarding techniques for all letters

16. Demonstrates proper keyboarding techniques to type appropriate vocabulary words
17. Copies words & sentences from a model using word processing
18. Demonstrates computer editing skills such as: cut, paste, copy
19. Utilizes information technology as a tool and as a resource for learning and skillbuilding, (e.g. uses spreadsheet programs to generate charts and graphs to illustrate mathematical problems or uses electronic books for reading)
20. Make informed judgments about television productions.
21. Analyze, compare and contrast printed visual information using materials such as: graphs, charts, and maps.
22. Conduct research for assigned and self-selected projects (with assistance) from a variety of sources.

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Develops problem-solving techniques
2. Applies critical thinking skills to evaluate technical sources
3. Categorizes words, pictures, objects and ideas
4. Uses context clues
5. Distinguishes between fact and opinion
6. Determines cause and effect relationships
7. Demonstrates the ability to compare and contrast
8. Draws conclusions
9. Uses inferential thinking
10. Expands fundamental organizational skills
11. Uses basic creativity, authoring tools, and software for reports and projects (e.g. creates simple drawing and diagrams or pictograms in conjunction with written work)
12. Apply phonics and structural analysis to decode words (i.e. roots, prefixes, suffixes, vowel patterns, and syllable breaks)
13. Apply meanings of common prefixes and suffixes to decode words to assist in comprehension.
14. Increase vocabulary through: wide reading, word study, listening, discussion, book talks, book clubs, seminars, role play, and study author's craft

Grade 4

Oral Communication

1. Demonstrates ability to speak clearly with appropriate pauses and inflections in discussion and oral reading
2. Uses effective communication skills (volume, pitch, expression, etc.) for a variety of purposes: reports, presentations, dramatizations, debates, recitations, discussions, interviews, improvisations, narrations, summarizations, dialogs, etc.
3. Uses correct grammar and verb tense when speaking
4. Gives clear and concise directions and explanations
5. Dramatizes stories and plays
6. Participates in group discussion
7. Recites prayers, bible verses and passages from memory (IF)

Written Communication

1. Practices proper cursive writing skills
2. Identifies and demonstrates correct punctuation and spacing
3. Writes clearly about what is read
4. Communicates ideas well through various sentence structure
5. Composes one topic paragraph
6. Composes multiple paragraphs with topic sentences, relevant details, logical progression and movement of ideas, coherence, elaboration, concluding statement related to the topic.
7. Uses descriptive words in writing
8. Demonstrates the ability to write and create sentences, paragraphs, personal and imaginative stories, reports, journals, poems, letters, labels, signs, and charts.
9. Utilizes the five-step writing process
10. Identifies & uses proofreading symbols
11. Proofreads and corrects most misspellings independently with reference to resources (e.g. dictionaries, thesauri, spell-check)

Auditory Communication

1. Listens and follows directions
2. Listens and writes dictated sentences
3. Restates oral or written directions to demonstrate understanding
4. Recalls plot, setting, characters, main idea, details & sequence of a story that is read aloud
5. Participates in group discussion

Visual Communication

1. Reads and follows written directions
2. Interprets graphic organizers, charts, diagrams, graphs, time lines, etc.

Word and Language Patterns

1. Identifies and uses: antonyms, synonyms, homonyms, homographs, homophones, plurals, possessives, abbreviations, prefixes, suffixes, rhyming patterns
2. Identifies parts of speech, root words, contractions, compound words
3. Identifies and uses vowel sounds in spelling patterns
4. Recognizes & understands analogies
5. Recognizes and applies syllabication in the decoding of words
6. Alphabetizes words using all letters of the word
7. Identifies and uses rules of spelling
8. Recognizes alliteration, onomatopoeia and repetition
9. Identifies words in the dictionary & uses them correctly in sentences
10. Identifies and writes the four sentence types (declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory)
11. Constructs complete simple and compound sentences
12. Identifies sentence parts – subject, predicate-simple and compound
13. Identifies and uses verbs: regular, irregular, linking, helping
14. Identifies & utilizes present, past and future tenses of verbs
15. Utilizes proper capitalization & punctuation
16. Recognizes and uses pronouns: personal, subject, object possessive

17. Forms comparative and superlative adjectives

Literature – Strategic Thinking

1. Describes the role of author and illustrator and recognizes literary styles and point of view
2. Identify key words and discover their meanings and relationships through a variety of strategies
3. Infer word meanings to assist in comprehension
4. Identifies characteristics of a variety of literary forms
5. Analyzes story elements of characterization, plots, and theme
6. Recognizes the use of figurative language
7. Interact with the text before, during, and after reading/listening by making predictions, formulating questions, locating relevant information, making connections with previous experiences, information and ideas
8. Make inferences, draw conclusions, and make generalizations
9. Summarize major points from fiction and nonfiction texts
10. Dramatizes stories and plays
11. Uses evidence to support opinions
12. Interacts for at least 20 minutes daily with material at student's independent reading level.

Media/Technology

1. Uses correct posture and finger placement for keyboarding
2. Uses computers for keyboard skills, word processing & reinforcement of skills
3. Utilizes the card catalogue or data base to locate appropriate books and information
4. Demonstrates knowledge of Dewey Decimal System
5. Demonstrates ability to listen to and evaluate various forms of media
6. Reinforces language development through use of a variety of print & non/print media
7. Maintains proper library etiquette
8. Acquires knowledge of and utilizes resource materials such as: dictionary, encyclopedia, thesaurus, atlas, newspaper, computer and the Internet
9. Designs/creates visual presentations using a variety of different media including technology
10. Demonstrates keyboarding and word processing skills
11. Utilizes reference materials
12. Utilizes information technology as a tool and as a resource for learning and skill building, (e.g. uses spreadsheet programs to generate charts and graphs to illustrate mathematical problems or uses electronic books for reading)
13. Demonstrates proficiency in independent use of school library on-line catalogs to find information

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Develops problem-solving techniques
2. Applies critical thinking skills to evaluate technical sources
3. Takes simple notes
4. Forms basic and simple outlines
5. Develops test-taking strategies

6. Understands appropriate study methods
7. Expands fundamental organizational skills
8. Uses basic creativity, authoring tools, and software for reports and projects (e.g. creates simple drawing) diagrams or pictograms in conjunction with written work

Language Arts

Grade 5

Oral Communication

1. Presents planned oral presentations using complete sentences and correct grammar
2. Participates in group discussion
3. Dramatizes stories and plays
4. Reads and recites poetry
5. Expresses ideas clearly and accurately
6. Uses appropriate volume, pitch, tone, eye contact and expression when speaking
7. Gives clear oral directions and instructions
8. Follows and translates oral directions
9. Reads orally with expression and fluency
10. Recites a passage from memory
11. Read aloud grade appropriate text with fluency, comprehension, expression, correct volume, pace, audience, and purpose.
12. Use oral language to formulate hypotheses, evaluate information, present and support arguments, and influence others thinking.
13. Use a variety of preliminary strategies to plan a speech considering purpose, audience, and timeline.
14. Read aloud a variety of works: poetry, drama, letters, etc...
15. Sing worship songs. (IF)
16. Lead others in worship. (IF)

Written Communication

1. Writes about what is read
2. Communicates ideas well through the use of various sentence structures
3. Writes with a command of the grammatical and mechanical conventions of compositions
4. Demonstrates the use of the 5 step writing process
5. Demonstrates competence with types of writing such as: personal narrative, expository paragraph, comparison and contrast, descriptive writing, letter-writing, news story, short stories, persuasive writing, journals, poetry
6. Uses vivid words, details, dialogue, quotations, similes, metaphors, superlative adjectives in writing
7. Identifies and uses proofreading symbols
8. Identifies and uses transition words
9. Demonstrates ability to write a report from a simple outline

10. Identifies and demonstrates correct use of punctuation
11. Uses computer to transcribe
12. Demonstrates use of word processing utilities
13. Compose final drafts that include topic sentences, 5 supporting details, and a closing sentence.
14. Compose writing that demonstrates knowledge of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama
15. Revise own writing including: improving word choice, rearranging text for clarity, create correct simple and complex sentences, develop a plot, character, and mood.
16. Produce work in several different genres (essay, business letter, feature story, reports)
17. Use a computer to enhance or publish a final product.
18. Consistently use correct capitalization of proper nouns.
19. Consistently use correct punctuation including: commas, colons, periods, question marks, and exclamation marks.
20. Use correctly in writing: prepositional phrases, conjunctions, nouns, and verbs.
21. Edit final drafts for correct grammar, language conventions, and format.
22. Create documents with legible cursive writing using correct letter formation.
23. Conducts and writes a research report using 5 sources.

Auditory Communication

1. Demonstrates the use of good listening skills by making and evaluating inferences and conclusions about characters, events and themes.
2. Justify evaluation of characters and events from different selections by citing supporting evidence in the text.
3. Recognizes the role of the media and makes appropriate use of it
4. Identify strategies used by a speaker to inform, entertain, or persuade.
5. Reads, listens to and interprets poetry
6. Follows multi-step directions both oral and written
7. Demonstrates ability to give directions
8. Listen actively and critically by: asking questions, delving deeper into the topic, elaborating on the information, evaluating information, make inferences, draw conclusions, and make judgments.
9. Demonstrates response to an oral presentation by asking appropriate questions

Visual Communication

1. Demonstrates ability to take notes from an oral and/or visual presentation
2. Constructs and interprets diagrams, graphs, time lines, webs, flow charts, maps
3. Demonstrates proficiency in independent use of school library on-line catalogs to find information
4. Makes use of appropriate visual aids in making presentations

Word and Language Patterns

1. Demonstrates use of structural analysis to determine word meaning
2. Recognizes and uses synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, homographs, homophones, abbreviations, prefixes, and suffixes
3. Demonstrates ability to classify words according to common characteristics
4. Recognizes and understands analogies
5. Demonstrates ability to use context clues to develop word meanings
6. Recognizes and uses figurative language

7. Identifies and uses rules of spelling
8. Identifies sound patterns-alliterations, onomatopoeia, repetition and rhyme
9. Utilizes syllabication in the decoding of words
10. Knows and can identify parts of speech: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, and prepositions.
11. Identifies words in the dictionary and uses them correctly in sentences
12. Uses literary and poetic forms and patterns to create own works of prose or poetry
13. Identifies root words

14. Recognizes and uses various sentence structures to identify and write the four kinds of sentences
15. Categorizes nouns: kind, person, number, gender, and case
16. Identifies regular and irregular verbs
17. Identifies and uses adjective and adverb phrases
18. Demonstrates knowledge and application of rules for agreement of subject and verb
19. Recognizes adjectives as limiting, demonstrative, descriptive, proper, and comparison
20. Recognizes compound, personal and possessive pronouns
21. Identifies conjunctions, interjections and prepositions
22. Recognizes adverbs of time, place, manner, and degree

Literature – Strategic Thinking

1. Identifies characteristics of a variety of literary forms
2. Identifies, analyzes and uses figurative language
3. Utilizes pre-reading strategies
4. Identifies literary techniques and elements of style
5. Analyzes story elements of characterization plots and theme
6. Reads classic and current literature for enjoyment and information
7. Demonstrates ability to distinguish between fact & opinion
8. Use metacognitive strategies to extend comprehension and vocabulary (skim, scan, reread, consult other sources, summarize, paraphrase, ask questions)
9. Interact with text before during and after reading by: making predictions,formulating questions, support answers from text and personal experiences, and making connections from previous texts.
10. Read a variety of texts: fiction, tall tales, myths, nonfiction, newspapers, magazines, poetry, and dramas.
11. Identify elements of fiction and nonfiction by referencing plot, point of view, tone, figurative language, personification, and flashback.
12. Evaluate relationships that are: casual,hierarchical, and temporal.
13. Respond to text through: analyzing word choice, examining reasons for characters reasons for actions and motivation, examine alternative perspectives, examine relations among characters, make inferences and conclusions about characters, events, and themes.
14. Compares Bible translations (IF)
15. Reads independently 30 minutes a day, using age-appropriate materials.

Media/Technology

1. Demonstrates knowledge of resources available in the library

2. Locates books in the library using the Dewey Decimal System and is able to classify subjects by specific Dewey Decimal numbers
3. Demonstrates ability to listen to and evaluate various forms of media
4. Demonstrates ability to utilize media as resource: videos, CD Rom, Internet, basic word processing
5. Maintains proper library etiquette
6. Utilizes resource material such as dictionary, encyclopedia, atlas, & thesaurus
7. Make informed judgments about radio, television, and films.
8. Make informed judgments about: bias, propaganda, stereotyping, and media techniques.
9. Designs/creates visual presentations using a variety of different media including technology
10. Demonstrates proficiency in keyboarding skills & word processing
11. Utilizes library visits to develop lifelong reading enjoyment
12. Reads and appreciates age appropriate newspapers and magazines
13. Creates a new document, opens, names, saves, closes, exits, moves, renames and reopens personal files
14. Utilizes resource material
15. Utilizes information technology as a tool and as a resource for learning and skill building, (e.g. uses spreadsheet programs to generate charts and graphs to illustrate mathematical problems or uses electronic books for reading)
16. Recognizes bias in all forms of media

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Develops problem-solving techniques
2. Applies critical thinking skills to evaluate technical sources
3. Demonstrates the ability to take notes
4. Demonstrates the ability to organize information and outline
5. Demonstrates test taking techniques
6. Demonstrates the ability to use various study methods
7. Uses inferential thinking
8. Determines cause and effect relationships
9. Distinguishes between fact and fiction
10. Draws conclusions
11. Uses clues for context interpretations

Language Arts

Grade 6

Oral Communication

1. Presents and critiques planned oral presentations
2. Contributes to cooperative groups and discussion
3. Conducts interviews and debates
4. Reads poetry and prose aloud with correct volume, pitch, tone, eye contact, and expression
5. Formulates and asks relevant questions
6. Gives clear oral directions and instructions
7. Uses age appropriate vocabulary to express ideas IF
8. Plan and conduct interviews IF
9. Lead a school chapel service IF

10. Recite or sing memorized Christian hymns IF

Written Communication

1. Demonstrates competence with types of writing such as narrative, expository, creative, descriptive, persuasive, letter writing, news stories, short stories, journals and poetry
2. Demonstrates ability to write a simple report from an outline
3. Identifies persuasive techniques such as bias and propaganda
4. Demonstrates competence in style, grammar, and mechanics of writing
5. Identifies and uses proofreading techniques
6. Utilizes 5 step writing process
7. Demonstrates ability to write in a variety of genres and styles for a variety of audiences
8. Demonstrates use of word processing utilities such as spell check, thesaurus, dictionary, outlines
9. Demonstrates use of multimedia presentation software to present a report
10. Writes a personal Narrative with coherent organization and structure.
11. Writes a story using dialogue.
11. Make letters and cards for the members of the congregation IF

Auditory Communication

1. Listens for rhyme, rhythm and elements of poetry
2. Listens to and correctly follows spoken directions.
3. Listens attentively and demonstrates empathy

Visual Communication

1. Incorporates visual aides to supplement presentations
2. Demonstrates ability to read and interpret graphs, maps, charts, tables and diagrams, time lines and webs
3. Develops and uses graphic organizers
4. Identifies and uses context clues
5. Interprets non-verbal communication
6. Demonstrates ability to copy material from chalkboard, overhead, etc.
7. Evaluates, selects and uses various media for presentations based on their effectiveness in accomplishing the student's task and purpose (e.g., incorporates audio in presentations about languages or music and selects photos, video, or drawing to illustrate different processes)
8. Utilizes print-based sources and on-line resources of information
9. Analyze characters of expressive works.
10. Make connections between works and self related topics.
11. Generate learning logs or journal entries.
12. Restate and summarize information.
13. Use multiple sources of print and non-print information (brochures, newsletters, and infomercials) recognize primary and secondary sources.
14. Create banners and posters with religious themes to display in church and school buildings IF

Word and Language Patterns

1. Uses structural analysis for decoding
2. Recognizes and uses prefixes, suffixes, homographs, homophones, homonyms, synonyms, antonyms, abbreviations
3. Investigates and recognizes the etymology of words
4. Identifies and incorporates word patterns in (oral and) written communication

5. Recognizes and utilizes analogies
6. Utilizes syllabication in the decoding of words
7. Utilizes literary devices-alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia, figurative language
8. Identifies words in the dictionary and uses them correctly in sentences
9. Identifies root word
10. Classifies parts of speech by usage
11. Identifies and uses all parts of speech correctly
12. Recognizes and composes different types of sentences
13. Uses correct grammar including adverbial and adjectival phrases, subject-verb agreement and pronoun antecedent agreement
14. Classifies sentences: simple, compound, complex, compound-complex
15. Uses punctuation correctly
16. Write sentences that avoid fragments and run-ons.
17. Use appropriate subject-verb agreement.
18. Use pronouns correctly including antecedents.
19. Properly use phrases or clauses (prepositional, appositives, dependent and independent)
20. Use and learn new vocabulary terms including (use context clues, dictionaries, glossaries thesaurus, as well as structural analysis of roots and prefixes)
21. Review and use common spelling rules.
22. Master spelling individual lists of words.
23. Create and proof read rough and final drafts of writing, correcting spelling.
24. Develop an awareness of errors in everyday speech.

Literature –

1. Demonstrates ability to interpret & analyze a variety of literary forms
2. Identifies, analyzes and uses figurative language
3. Reads classic and current literature for enjoyment and information
4. Utilizes pre-reading strategies
5. Responds to literary selections in written and oral form
6. Analyzes story elements of characterization, plot, setting, and theme
7. Identifies and analyzes literary techniques and elements of style
8. Demonstrates an ability to compare diverse literary works and their themes
9. Draws connections between history, art, music, etc. and works of both fiction and non-fiction
10. Identifies and constructs analogies
11. Discuss stories using a Socratic Seminar setting.
12. Analyze characters, authors' purpose, distinguish between fact and opinion.
13. Explore bias or hidden meanings of authors.
14. Read self-selected literature.
15. Discuss relationships between characters.
16. Study different literature genres (novels, autobiographies, myths, essays, poems, plays etc...)
17. Read Christian fiction and non-fiction novels IF
18. Read during leisure time IF
19. Read silently for 30 minutes a day

Media/Technology

1. Demonstrates proficiency in word processing, publishing and creating data bases
2. Utilizes library and electronic reference
3. Utilizes media to become aware of and discusses current events

4. Models proper library etiquette
5. Demonstrates ability to utilize technology in preparing a presentation
6. Reads and enjoys age appropriate magazines, newspapers & literature
7. Uses the following word processing functions: spell check, thesaurus, outline, grammar check
8. Demonstrates use of reference services
9. Recognizes useful on-line information for his/her work

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Develops problem-solving techniques
2. Applies critical thinking skills to technology
3. Develop efficient note-taking skills
4. Demonstrates the ability to write an outline
5. Uses test-taking skills and strategies
6. Develops different study methods for different types of material
7. Uses strategies to demonstrate competency in the content areas
8. Develops comprehensive vocabulary knowledge
9. Draws conclusion

Language Arts

Grade 7

Oral Communication

1. Communicates effectively; debating issues, presenting speeches and reports, participating in cooperative group discussion, reciting poetry
2. Utilizes appropriate vocabulary, style, grammar, pitch, tone, feeling, eye contact and expression when presenting
3. Choose language that is precise, engaging, and well-suited to the topic and audience
4. Formulates and asks relevant questions
5. Gives clear oral directions and instructions
6. Demonstrates skills to ask questions orally
7. Narrates an expressive account
8. Interacts in group settings by responding appropriately to comments and questions and offering reasons for opinion
9. Analyze purposes of speeches IF
10. Read or recite to an audience IF

Written Communication

1. Identifies genres and demonstrates competence with each
2. Organizes and composes papers incorporating literary techniques
3. Demonstrates ability to take notes from oral and written material
4. Demonstrates ability to write in the style and format of newspaper articles
5. Researches, organizes and writes informal research paper
6. Identifies types of essays & demonstrates ability to compose each
7. Demonstrates ability to continue an open-ended work/and to rewrite the ending to a work of literature
8. Critiques literary works for similarities/differences/effectiveness of literary topics used
9. Understands that writing purpose and audience determine writing mode
10. Continues to demonstrate computer word processing skills to transcribe writing
11. Masters proofreading symbols for editing
12. Produces final drafts/presentations that demonstrate accurate spelling and the correct use of

- punctuation, capitalization, and format
13. Generate a learning log or journal
 14. Maintain an annotated list of works read/viewed
 15. Construct and present book/media reviews
 16. Write autobiographies IF
 17. Rewrite stories as drama IF
 18. Write in rhymed couplets IF
 19. Proof and revise writing IF
 20. Take notes IF
 21. Write with varied sentence structure IF
 22. Use dictionaries to learn origins of words IF

Auditory Communication

1. Recognizes auditory clues such as word choice, pitch, feeling, and tone in a speaker's message.
2. Demonstrates effective listening skills.
3. Listens to and monitors self to correct errors

Visual Communication

1. Recognizes visual clues such as body language in a speaker's message
2. Incorporates visual aids to support presentations
3. Demonstrates ability to read and interpret graphs, maps, charts, tables and diagrams
4. Demonstrates ability to draw conclusions, write responsive editorials and/or critiques on works of art
5. Evaluates, selects, and uses various media for presentations based on their effectiveness in accomplishing the student's task and purpose (e.g. incorporates audio in presentations about languages or music and selects photos, video, or drawing to illustrate different processes)
6. Utilizes print-based sources and on-line reference material

Word and Language Patterns

1. Demonstrates an understanding of dictionary markings and abbreviations
2. Investigates the etymology of words
3. Demonstrates an understanding of word relationships
4. Demonstrates ability to use root, prefixes and suffixes to determine the definition of words
5. Utilizes context clues to determine word meaning
6. Recognizes and utilizes analogies
7. Recognizes and correctly uses homophones/homonyms, synonyms, and antonyms
8. Utilizes and recognizes poetic terms/word patterns in their deeper meaning within the poem
9. Interprets poetry
10. Identifies and uses all parts of speech correctly
11. Uses correct subject-verb agreement, pronoun-antecedent agreement and verb tense consistency
12. Uses correct phrases and clauses
13. Classifies sentences: simple, compound, complex, compound-complex
14. Utilizes correct punctuation in writing assignments
15. Determines meaning of unfamiliar words using context clues, dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, and/or structural analysis
16. Experiment with figurative language and speech patterns

Literature –

1. Demonstrates ability to interpret & analyze a variety of literary forms
2. Demonstrates ability to analyze literature using the five point plot chart (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution)
3. Identifies and uses literary techniques and elements of style
4. Identifies, analyzes and uses figurative language
5. Reads classic and current literature for enjoyment and information
6. Analyzes story elements of characterization, plot, setting, and theme
7. Draws connections between a literary work and the student's life and modern Society
8. Draws connections between history, art, music, etc. and works of both fiction and non-fiction
9. Demonstrates an ability to compare diverse literary works and their themes
10. Uses critical reading strategies
11. Recognizes the characteristics of literary genres through:
 - reading a variety of literature
 - analyzing what genre specific characteristics have on the meaning of the work
 - analyzing how the author's choice and use of a genre shapes the meaning of the work
 - analyzing what impact elements have on the meaning of the text
12. Analyzes the purpose of the author
13. Develop the stance of a critic by:
 - considering and presenting alternative points of view or reasons
 - remaining fair-minded and open to other interpretations
14. Discuss literature elements using Socratic Seminar setting.
15. Create a critical response/review of a work or topic
16. Explore and analyze argumentative works that are read/viewed/heard
17. Explore and analyze the problem-solution process
18. Study and create arguments that evaluate
19. Read 30 min. each day IF
20. Read Christian novels IF

Media/Technology

1. Demonstrates proficiency in word processing, publishing and creating data bases
2. Utilizes library and electronic media resources
3. Identifies persuasive techniques such as bias and propaganda
4. Publishes independent literary works using the computer
5. Models proper library etiquette
6. Demonstrates ability to utilize technology in preparation & presentation of projects
7. Reads and enjoys age appropriate magazines, newspapers & literature
8. Uses the following functions: spell check, thesaurus, outline, grammar check
9. Uses reference materials
10. Recognizes useful on-line information for his/her work

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Demonstrates ability to use critical thinking techniques and study skills independently
2. Applies critical thinking skills to evaluate technical sources
3. Develops organized and efficient note-taking methods
4. Develops outlining skills
5. Develops knowledge of various testing techniques and terminology

6. Develops most effective study methods for different types of material
7. Develops comprehensive vocabulary knowledge
8. Develops ability to compare and contrast

Language Arts

Grade 8

Oral Communication

1. Demonstrates the ability to make presentations, debate issues, deliver speeches
2. Demonstrates verbal communication skills such as word choice(s), pitch, feeling, tone, and voice
3. Demonstrates the ability to give and to follow oral directions
4. Participates in group discussion and responds orally to discussion questions
5. Reads poetry aloud
6. Presents orderly and convincing arguments
7. Narrate a personal account appropriate to purpose, audience, and context, establishing point of view and selecting details
8. Interact in group activities, sharing reactions, citing examples, clarifying responses
9. Create arguments that persuade by engaging the audience and developing an idea that makes a clear judgment
10. Anticipate counterarguments
- FR11. Create a structure appropriate to purpose, audience, and context
12. Dramatize a familiar story IF
13. Use bible maps, timelines, and concordances IF
14. Use the classified section of the newspaper IF
15. Describe bible characters IF
16. Suggest realistic and logical solutions to problems IF
17. Present a chapel service IF

Written Communication

1. Adapts style of writing to the assignment's purpose and audience
2. Uses writing skills effectively to communicate ideas
3. Writes in a variety of forms including narrative, expository, persuasive and descriptive writing
4. Demonstrates the ability to write responses to literary works and discuss relationships among literary elements
5. Utilizes the writing process to complete a formal research paper
6. Composes various forms of poetry
7. Develops an essay including thesis statement, body and conclusion
8. Demonstrates use of computer word processing skills to transcribe writing
9. Demonstrates ability to hear voice within an author's writing and create a unique voice within one's own writing
10. Analyze materials by generating a learning log and keeping an annotated list of works that are read or viewed, including personal reactions
11. Convert rhymed poems to free verse IF
12. Write journal entries IF
13. Write a letter to the editor IF
14. Write a science fiction or adventure story I

Auditory

1. Demonstrates effective listening skills
2. Recognizes and analyzes rhythm and rhyme in prose and poetry

3. Recognizes auditory clues

Visual

1. Makes use of visual aids to support presentations
2. Demonstrates ability to read and interpret graphs, maps, charts, tables, and diagrams
3. Recognizes visual clues
4. Evaluates, selects, and uses various media for presentations based on their effectiveness in accomplishing the student's task and purpose (e.g. incorporates audio in presentations about languages or music and selects photos, video, or drawing to illustrate different processes)

Word and Language Patterns

1. Demonstrates use of synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, homophones, homographs, analogies, & contractions
2. Utilizes prefixes, suffixes, and base words with understanding
3. Recognizes and utilizes analogies
4. Recognizes idiomatic expressions in writing and conversation
5. Recognizes syllables and stress in words
6. Analyzes word context to infer meaning
7. Investigates the etymology of words
8. Identifies and uses all parts of speech correctly
9. Identifies and uses subject-verb agreement, pronoun-usage, verb tense, noun & verb usage
10. Demonstrates mastery of sentence construction: simple, compound, complex, complex-compound
11. Recognizes and identifies clauses & verbal (for example - gerunds, participles, infinitives)
12. Analyzes syntax of words in sentence context
13. Utilizes correct use of punctuation
14. Determines meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary words using context clues, dictionary, glossary, thesaurus, and structural analysis
15. Extends vocabulary knowledge by learning and using new words
16. Evaluate the use and power of dialects
17. Applies correct language conventions and usage during formal oral presentations
18. Identifies and edits errors in spoken and written English by:
 - Using correct spelling of words appropriate in difficulty for eight graders and refining mastery of an individualized list of commonly misspelled words
 - Producing final drafts that demonstrate accurate spelling and the correct use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
 - Self correcting errors in everyday speech
 - Independently practicing formal oral presentations
19. Interpret abbreviations and acronyms IF
20. Write using compound and complex sentences IF

Literature –

1. Demonstrates a thorough knowledge of literary elements
2. Identifies, analyzes and uses figurative language
3. Identifies, analyzes and uses literary techniques and elements of style
4. Reads classic and current literature for enjoyment and information
5. Demonstrates ability to interpret and analyze a variety of literary forms

6. Draws connections between a literary work and the student's life and contemporary society
7. Uses critical reading strategies
8. Demonstrates an ability to compare diverse literary works and their themes
9. Draws connections between history, art, music, etc. and literary works
10. Discuss literature themes using Socratic Seminar setting.
11. Increase fluency, comprehension, and insight through a comprehensive literacy program
12. Study the characteristics of literary genres
13. Evaluate the impact of genre-specific characteristics on the meaning of the text
14. Evaluate how the author's choice and use of a genre and the impact of literary elements shape the meaning of the work
15. Read Christian novels IF
16. Silent read for 30 min. a day

Media/Technology

1. Demonstrates proficiency in word processing, publishing and creating data bases
2. Utilizes library and electronic media resources
3. Evaluates information from various sources
4. Models proper library etiquette
5. Demonstrates ability to utilize technology in preparation & presentation of projects
6. Reads and enjoys age appropriate magazines, newspapers & literature
7. Uses the following word processing functions: spell check, thesaurus, outline, grammar check
8. Uses reference materials
9. Recognizes useful on-line information services for his/her work

Critical Thinking/Study Skills

1. Demonstrates ability to use critical thinking techniques and study skills independently
2. Applies critical thinking skills to technology
3. Develops organized and efficient note-taking methods
4. Develops outlining skills
5. Develops knowledge of various testing techniques and terminology
6. Develops different types of study methods for different types of material
7. Organizes ideas in a logical and cohesive manner
8. Develops comprehensive vocabulary knowledge
9. Analyze materials by monitoring comprehension and drawing inferences
10. Analyze and evaluate informational materials by summarizing information, determining the importance and accuracy of information, making connections to related topics, generating questions, and extending ideas
11. Explore and evaluate argumentative works by monitoring comprehension and analyzing arguments and positions
12. Recognizes the effects of bias, emotional factors, semantic slanting
13. Evaluate author's purpose
14. Respond to public documents
15. Analyze, develop, and apply criteria to evaluate the quality of the communication by:
 - using knowledge of language structure and literary/media techniques,
 - drawing conclusions based on evidence, reasons, or relevant information and considering the impact of those conclusions

16. Use the stance of a critic to consider other points of view, remain open-minded, constructing a critical response of a topic