

# 6th-8th Grade Intensive Reading Course Syllabus

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION (From CPALMS)**

The purpose of this course is to provide instruction that enables students to accelerate the development of reading and writing skills and to strengthen those skills so they are able to successfully read and write middle grade level text independently. Instruction emphasizes reading comprehension, writing fluency, and vocabulary study through the use of a variety of literary and informational texts encompassing a broad range of text structures, genres, and levels of complexity. Texts used for instruction focus on a wide range of topics, including content-area information, in order to support students in meeting the knowledge and demands of increasingly complex text. Students enrolled in the course will engage in interactive text-based discussion, question generation, and research opportunities. They will write in response to reading and cite evidence when answering text dependent questions orally and in writing. The course provides extensive opportunities for students to collaborate with their peers. Scaffolding is provided as necessary as students engage in reading and writing increasingly complex text and is removed as the reading and writing abilities of the students improve over time.

## **TEXTBOOK/CURRICULUM**

Reading material will be taken from a variety of sources including but not limited to StudySync, Scholastic, etc. We will be working on building academic vocabulary using the grade level curriculum. IXL and iReady lessons will be assigned on a weekly basis.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Students' grades will be determined by using the following categories and percentages:

Practice	--	30%
Performance (Mastery)	--	70%

**Grading Scale:** A (90-100) B (80-89) C (70-79) D (60-69) F (0-59)

## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS/RULES:**

1. Be on time and where you are supposed to be. (Prompt)
2. Be prepared and on task. (Prepared)
3. Ask for what you need. (Positive)
4. Strive for excellence and always do your best. (Productive)
5. Respect the rights, responsibility, and property of others. (Polite)

You are responsible for reading and following the student handbook as well as classroom procedures and classroom rules. When you make a choice that violates classroom and/or school rules, disciplinary consequences will be implemented. Please refer to the following documents found on the tvcs.org website under “middle school”, “Forms/Documents/Newsletters”:

- VCMS Student Handbook
- 23-24 Classroom Behavior Management Plan

**Daily Required Materials:**

- ChromeBook (fully charged)
- Folder with prongs (Kept in backpack)
- Pencils with erasers
- Highlighters in Four Colors (blue, green, yellow and pink)
- AR Book and Log
- Wired Headphones/earbuds
- 1-subject notebook (composition or spiral)

**Google Classroom:** Google Classroom links can be found on the teacher connection page by class period.

**Procedures:** Upon entering my class, there will be a “Do-Now”(bell ringer) to be started as soon as you enter and completed at the beginning of the class. These Do-Nows will consist of reading exercises, vocabulary exercises, writing exercises and critical thinking activities. This is part of your weekly classwork grade.

Before dismissal, students will be expected to complete a daily exit ticket to recap what was learned during the class period. Both Do Nows and exit tickets will be used for weekly grades.

During the lesson, you are expected to participate and behave appropriately by following **The Ways to Be** as posted in the room.

All classwork and assignments are to be completed before the end of class since most of your work will be graded in class.

If you finish your work early, you will need to complete your IXL assignment, iReady lessons, AR read, take an AR test, check your points, or go to the library. I dismiss the class, not the bell. Once your designated area is put back in order, I will dismiss you.

**Make-up Work:** It is your responsibility to get your missed work either by using my teacher connection page on the VCMS website, look on Google Classroom or ask me at the end of class. Work will be posted on Google Classroom pages and can be accessed when absent.

**Late Work:**

According to school policy, any work that is turned in late, besides missing work due to an absence, will be graded in the following manner:

- 1 day late -- 60% maximum
- 2 days late or more -- 0%

**Tardies:** You will need to be in the classroom and seated before the bell rings.( 4minute passing time) If not, you are considered tardy. 1st and 2nd tardies= warning, 3rd tardy=parent contact, 4th -9th tardy=after school detention and 10th tardy= referral to administration.

**Bathroom/Library:** There is a Google Form found in Google classroom that you will need to fill out.

**Accelerated Reader:** I will track and monitor your AR goal and points. If you reach your AR goal, not only will you receive full credit for that grade in this class, you will earn extra credit in your Language Arts class. your AR goal will be placed into the 70% category and your comprehension will count for 30% of your grade.

**Quizzes:** There will be quizzes to be completed at the end of each week to assess what was taught and learned during the week. They may be electronic or paper.

**IXL and iReady Lessons:** You are responsible for completing weekly assigned IXL and iReady lessons. These lessons will correlate with what we are working on in class and will give the student extra enrichment opportunities. You will work on these after the lesson is complete. It is up to the student to get these done in a timely fashion before the announced due date.

## **ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE AND COMMUNICATION**

I am available to any student or parent requesting additional assistance or needing additional information. If you choose to email me, please remember to put "Student" in the subject line so your email will reach me through the VCS web filter. If you prefer to contact me by phone, please call the school office and leave a message requesting me to return your phone call. If I need to contact you, I will first try to contact you through email unless you have indicated a preference for phone contact on the return form.

## **ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE PAGE**

Please view the Electronic Signature Page posted on the student's Google Classroom using the student assigned Chromebook.

**\*\*\* PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE PAGE BY Friday August 18, 2023\*\*\***  
[signature](#)

Electronic signature form is located in your child's Google Classroom.

