

Grade 6 Language Arts Outcomes

General Outcome 1: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences

1.1 Discover and Explore

- Use prior experiences with oral, print and other media texts to choose new texts to meet learning needs and interests
- Read, write, represent and talk to explore and explain connections between prior knowledge and new information in oral, print and other media texts
- Engage in exploratory communication to share personal responses and develop own interpretations
- Experiment with a variety of forms of oral, print and other media texts to discover those best suited for exploring, organizing and sharing ideas, information and experiences
- Assess a variety of oral, print and other media texts, and discuss preferences for particular forms
- Assess personal language use, and revise personal goals to enhance language learning and use

1.2 Clarify and Extend

- Select from the ideas and observation of others to expand personal understanding
- Use talk, notes, personal writing and representing, together with texts and the ideas of others, to clarify and shape understanding
- Evaluate the usefulness of new ideas, techniques and texts in terms of present understanding

General Outcome 2: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print and other media texts

2.1 Use Strategies and Cues

- Combine personal experiences and the knowledge and skills gained through previous experiences with oral, print and other media texts to understand new ideas and information
- Apply knowledge of organization structures of oral, print and other media texts to assist with constructing and confirming meaning
- Identify, and explain in own words, the interrelationship of the main ideas and supporting details
- Preview the content and structure of subject area texts, and use this information to set a purpose, rate and strategy for reading
- Use definitions provided in context to identify the meaning of unfamiliar words
- Monitor understanding by evaluating new ideas and information in relation to known ideas and information
- Use text features, such as charts, graphs and dictionaries, to enhance understanding of ideas and information
- Identify and use the structural elements of texts, such as magazines, newspapers, newscasts and news features, to access and comprehend ideas and information
- Use the meanings of prefixes and suffixes to predict the meaning of unfamiliar words in context
- Integrate and apply knowledge of phonics, sight vocabulary, language and context clues, and structural analysis to read unfamiliar words in texts of increasing length and complexity

- Choose the most appropriate reference to confirm the spellings or locate the meanings of unfamiliar words in oral, print and other media texts

2.2 Respond to Texts

- Experience oral, print and other media texts from a variety of cultural traditions and genres, such as autobiographies, travelogues, comics, short films, myths, legends and dramatic performances
- Explain own point of view about oral, print and other media texts
- Make connections between own life and characters and ideas in oral, print and other media texts
- Discuss common topics or themes in a variety of oral, print and other media texts
- Discuss the author's, illustrator's, storyteller's or filmmaker's intention or purpose
- Observe and discuss aspects of human nature revealed in oral, print and other media texts, and relate them to those encountered in the community
- Summarize oral, print or other media texts, indicating the connections among events, characters and settings
- Identify or infer reasons for a character's actions or feelings
- Make judgments and inferences related to events, characters, setting and main ideas of oral, print and other media texts
- Comment on the credibility of characters and events in oral, print and other media texts, using evidence from personal experiences and the text
- Explain how metaphor, personification and synecdoche are used to create mood and mental images
- Experiment with sentence patterns, imagery and exaggeration to create mood and mental images
- Discuss how detail is used to enhance character, setting, action and mood in oral, print and other media texts

2.3 Understand Forms, Elements and Techniques

- Identify key characteristics of a variety of forms or genres of oral, print and other media texts
- Discuss the differences between print and other media versions of the same text
- Discuss the connections among plot, setting and characters in oral, print and other media texts
- Identify first and third person narration, and discuss preferences with reference to familiar texts
- Explore techniques, such as visual imagery, sound, flashback and voice inflection, in oral, print and other media texts
- Identify strategies that presenters use in media texts to influence audiences
- Alter words, forms and sentence patterns to create new versions of texts for a variety of purposes; explain how imagery and figurative language, such as personification and alliteration, clarify and enhance meaning

2.4 Create Original Text

- Choose life themes encountered in reading, listening and viewing activities, and in own experiences, for creating oral, print and other media texts
- Use literary devices, such as imagery and figurative language, to create particular effects
- Determine purpose and audience needs to choose forms, and organize ideas and details in oral, print and other media texts
- Express the same ideas in different forms and genres; compare and explain the effectiveness of each for audience and purpose

General Outcome 3: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to manage ideas and information
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3.1 Plan and Focus

- Distinguish among facts, supported inferences and opinions
- Use note-taking or representing to assist with understanding ideas and information, and focusing topics for investigation
- Decide and select the information needed to support a point of view
- Develop and follow own plan for accessing and gathering ideas and information, considering guidelines for time and length of investigation and presentation

3.2 Select and Process

- Locate information to answer research questions, using a variety of sources, such as printed texts, bulletin boards, biographies, art, music, community resource people, CDROMs and the Internet
- Use a variety of tools, such as bibliographies, thesauri, electronic searches and technology, to access information
- Skim, scan and read closely to gather information
- Evaluate the congruency between gathered information and research purpose and focus, using pre-established criteria

3.3 Organize, Record and Evaluate

- Organize ideas and information using a variety of strategies and techniques, such as comparing and contrasting, and classifying and sorting according to subtopics and sequence
- Organize and develop ideas and information into oral, print or other media texts with introductions that interest audiences and state the topic, sections that develop the topic and conclusions
- Make notes on a topic, combining information from more than one source; use reference sources appropriately
- Use outlines, thought webs and summaries to show the relationship among ideas and information and to clarify meaning
- Quote information from oral, print and other media sources
- Evaluate the appropriateness of information for a particular audience and purpose
- Recognize gaps in gathered information, and suggest additional information needed for a particular audience and purpose

3.4 Share and Review

- Communicate ideas and information in a variety of oral, print and other media texts, such as multiparagraph reports, question and answer formats and graphs
- Select appropriate visuals, print and/or other media to inform and engage the audience
- Establish goals for enhancing research skills

General Outcome 4: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to enhance the clarity and artistry of communication

4.1 Enhance and Improve

- Work collaboratively to revise and enhance oral, print and other media texts
- Ask for and evaluate the usefulness of feedback and assistance from peers
- Revise to provide focus, expand relevant ideas and eliminate unnecessary information
- Edit for appropriate verb tense and for correct pronoun references
- Use paragraph structures in expository and narrative texts
- Write legibly and at a pace appropriate to context and purpose
- Experiment with a variety of software design elements, such as spacing, graphics, titles and headings, and font sizes and styles, to enhance the presentation of texts
- Show the relationship among key words associated with topics of study, using a variety of strategies such as thought webs, outlines and lists
- Choose words that capture a particular aspect of meaning and that are appropriate for context, audience and purpose
- Experiment with several options, such as sentence structures, figurative language and multimedia effects, to choose the most appropriate way of communicating ideas or information

4.2 Attend to Conventions

- Identify the use of coordinate and subordinate conjunctions to express ideas
- Use complex sentence structures and a variety of sentence types in own writing
- Identify comparative and superlative forms of adjectives, and use in own writing
- Identify past, present and future verb tenses, and use throughout a piece of writing
- Use a variety of resources and strategies to determine and learn the correct spelling of common exceptions to conventional spelling patterns
- Explain the importance of correct spellings for effective communication
- Edit for and correct commonly misspelled words in own writing, using spelling generalizations and the meaning and function of words in context
- Use colons before lists, to separate hours and minutes, and after formal salutations in own writing
- Identify parentheses and colons when reading, and use them to assist comprehension
- Identify ellipses that show words are omitted or sentences are incomplete when reading, and use them to assist comprehension

4.3 Present and Share

- Use various styles and forms of presentations, depending on content, audience and purpose
- Emphasize key ideas and information to enhance audience understanding and enjoyment
- Demonstrate control of voice, pacing, gestures and facial expressions; arrange props and presentation space to enhance communication
- Identify the tone, mood and emotion conveyed in oral and visual presentations
- Respond to the emotional aspects of presentations by providing nonverbal encouragement and appreciative comments

General Outcome 5: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to respect, support and collaborate with others
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5.1 Respect Others and Strengthen Community

- Compare personal challenges and situations encountered in daily life with those experienced by people or characters in other times, places and cultures portrayed in oral, print and other media texts
- Share and discuss ideas and experiences that contribute to different responses to oral, print and other media texts
- Identify ways in which oral, print and other media texts from diverse cultures and communities explore similar ideas
- Use appropriate language to participate in public events, occasions or traditions
- Demonstrate respect by choosing appropriate language and tone in oral, print and other media texts

5.2 Work Within a Group

- Assume a variety of roles, and share responsibilities as a group member
- Identify and participate in situations and projects in which group work enhances learning and results
- Contribute to group knowledge of topics to identify and focus information needs, sources and purposes for research or investigations
- Address specific problems in a group by specifying goals, devising alternative solutions and choosing the best alternative
- Assess own contributions to group process, and set personal goals for working effectively with others