



CORE ENGLISH GRADE 6

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The English/Language Arts 6 course is organized around four thematic units: *The Search for Identity*; *Passages and Challenges*; *Acceptance*; and *Exploration and Reflection*. As the students examine the short stories and novels in the units, they analyze how authors develop theme, character, and setting. By reading and discussing a variety of poems, students learn to identify the significant features of poetry and figurative language. As they read and analyze a variety of texts, students learn to prioritize, organize, and retain important concepts and information.

The students write to respond to literature, to explain, to narrate, to describe, and to persuade. As they write, the students practice using and correctly punctuating simple, compound, and complex sentences. When they revise and edit their work, the students learn to pay particular attention to pronoun-antecedent agreement, subject-verb agreement, and the correct use of adverbial phrases. Throughout the year, the students continuously revise and edit their writing as they build their writing portfolios. All the units integrate skills in speaking and listening with reading and writing. At this grade level, students take a Reading Test for the English Standards of Learning.

PREREQUISITE

Fifth-grade language arts

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

Enrollment for the next English course should be based on student performance, teacher recommendation, and parent input. The courses available are Core English, Grade 7 and Advanced English, Grade 7.

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

Elements of Literature, 6

READING SELECTIONS

Amos Fortune, Elizabeth Yates

And Now Miguel, Joseph Krungold

Banner in the Sky, James Ramsey Ullman

Becoming Naomi Leon, Pam Muñoz Ryan

Bud, Not Buddy, Christopher Curtis

The Big Wave, Pearl Buck

Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson

Call It Courage, Armstrong Sperry

Carlotta, Scott O'Dell

The Cay, Theodore Taylor

The Endless Steppe, Esther Hautzig

Esperanza Rising, Pam Muñoz Ryan

Everything on a Waffle, Polly Horvath

The Eyes of the Amaryllis, Natalie Babbitt

A Gathering of Days, Joan W. Blos

The Great Gilly Hopkins, Katherine A. Paterson

Hatchet, Gary Paulsen

The Hay Meadow, Gary Paulsen

The Heart of a Chief, Joseph Bruchac

Homesick, My Own Story, Jean Fritz

House of Sixty Fathers, Meindert Dejong

Hoot, Carl Hiassen

Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell

Julie of the Wolves, Jean Craighead George

My Brother Sam Is Dead, James Lincoln Collier

My Side of the Mountain, Jean Craighead George

Number the Stars, Lois Lowry

Old Yeller, Fred Gipson

One-Eyed Cat, Paula Fox

Onion John, Joseph Krungold

Pinballs, Betsy Cromer Byars

River, Gary Paulsen

The Sacrifice, Kathleen Benner Duple

Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, Eleanor Coerr

Shakespeare's Secret, Elise Broach

Sign of the Beaver, Elizabeth George Speare

Snow Treasure, Marie McSwigan

Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time, Lisa Yee

Summer of the Swans, Betsy Byars

The Talking Earth, Jean Craighead George

Tuck Everlasting, Natalie Babbitt

Wood Song, Gary Paulsen

**6TH GRADE VIRGINIA BEACH STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

COMMUNICATION: SPEAKING, LISTENING, AND MEDIA LITERACY

- ELA 6.1 The student will participate in and contribute to small-group activities. (SOL 6.1)
- ELA 6.2 The student will present, listen critically, and express opinions in oral presentations individually and in collaboration with peers. (SOL 6.2)
- ELA 6.3 The student will understand the elements of media literacy. (SOL 6.3)

READING AND RESPONDING TO LITERATURE

- ELA 6.4 The student will read and learn the meanings of unfamiliar words and phrases within authentic texts. (SOL 6.4)
- ELA 6.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction, and poetry presented in a variety of media and formats. (SOL 6.5)
- ELA 6.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of nonfiction texts presented in a variety of media and formats. (SOL 6.6)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

- ELA 6.7 The student will write narration, description, exposition, and persuasion. (SOL 6.7)
- ELA 6.8 The student will edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and paragraphing. (SOL 6.8)

RESEARCH

- ELA 6.9 The student will find, evaluate, and select appropriate resources for a research product. (SOL 6.9)



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

Mission Statement

The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.

Dr. James G. Merrill, Superintendent

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
2512 George Mason Drive • P. O. Box 6038 • Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456-0038

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The following staff are designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Director of Guidance Services at (757) 263-1980 or to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources at (757) 263-1133.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcopolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone (757) 263-1070 or (757) 263-1429; fax (757) 263-1424; TDD (757) 263-1240

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CIE-0005 (Revised 8/12)