

ELEMENTARY LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENTAL CURRICULUM PROFILE

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The language arts program develops the academic process of reading, writing, listening, and communicating in an inclusive classroom for children.

PHILOSOPHY

Encourage each child to reach their full potential of being life long learners.

OBJECTIVES

One of the four areas of the Language Arts program at Lyons-Decatur Northeast is Spelling. Spelling instruction will focus on different spelling patterns, the origins of words, and how to correctly use and spell those words in context. Spelling words are divided into the following categories:

- short vowels
- long vowels
- ie/ei words
- r-controlled vowels
- compound words
- plurals
- inflectional endings
- diphthongs
- closed syllables
- open syllables
- accented syllables
- final /er/
- r-controlled vowel syllables
- final /en/and /el/
- prefixes
- ion & ation endings
- ive, age, ize endings
- suffixes
- base words
- vowel alternation
- consonant alternation
- homophones
- Latin roots
- Greek roots
- suffixes (able, ible, ant, ent, ance, ence)
- Greek & Latin prefixes
- absorbed prefixes
- Greek suffixes
- mythology
- words from around the world
- contractions
- vowel team syllables
- consonant & /le/ syllables
- homographs
- words with /chr/ & /zher/
- words with number prefixes
- diagraphs
- blends
- silent letters
- soft c & g
- words with sounds of u
- environmental print
- high frequency words

The second of the four areas of the Language Arts program at Lyons-Decatur Northeast is Grammar. Grammar instruction will focus on skills and concepts needed for speaking and writing English properly. Grammar concepts are divided into the following concepts:

- Subjects
- Predicates
- Nouns (common, proper, plural, possessive)
- Verbs (tenses, main, helping, linking, participles, gerunds)
- Adjectives (articles, comparative, demonstrative)
- Adverbs (comparative, superlative)
- Sentences (run-on, fragments, types – statement, command, question, exclamatory, complex, compound, clauses)
- Punctuation (periods, commas, question mark, exclamation mark, quotation marks, apostrophes, semi-colons, colon,
- Proofreading and editing

The third of the four areas of the Language Arts program at Lyons-Decatur Northeast is Reading. Reading instruction will focus on oral language, word study, and reading comprehension skills. Reading concepts are divided into the following areas:

Comprehension

- character and setting
- making inferences
- main idea and details
- problem and solution
- draw conclusions
- plot
- compare and contrast
- sequence of events
- author's purpose
- fact and opinion
- description
- cause and effect
- theme
- author's perspective
- persuasion
- summarize
- make and confirm predictions
- analyze story structure
- retelling
- visualize
- generate questions
- reread/monitor comprehension
- use illustrations
- fantasy/reality
- adjust reading rate
- classify and categorize
- fluency

Phonics:

- See spelling curriculum

Vocabulary Strategies

- homophones & homographs
- idioms and adages
- inflectional endings
- suffixes & prefixes
- word families
- word origins
- using a dictionary
- connotation and denotation
- using a thesaurus
- synonyms and antonyms
- word parts
- Greek and Latin roots
- context clues
- multiple-meaning words
- description
- sentence
- paragraph & word clues
- analogies
- figurative language
- Greek and Latin prefixes
- compound words
- unfamiliar words
- and other linguistic roots
- unknown words

Text Features/Literary Elements/ Study Skills

- timelines
- photographs and captions
- diagrams
- meter and alliteration
- using the internet
- maps
- using a library
- recipes
- stanzas
- line breaks
- similes
- rhythm and rhyme schemes
- heroes
- personification
- similes
- metaphors
- imagery
- onomatopoeia
- survey
- chart
- hyperbole
- using parts of a book
- moral
- venn diagrams
- study strategies
- tables
- consonance
- assonance
- toolbars and links
- guide words
- line graphs
- using computers
- multi-step directions
- primary sources
- genres
- implementing reasons for reading
- positional words
- symbolism
- interview
- advertisements
- skim
- scan
- multiple-text features
- repetition
- using reference materials
- process diagram
- foreshadowing
- point of view
- key words
- graphs
- everyday communications
- figurative language
- functional documents
- labels
- lists
- bar graphs
- encyclopedia article
- dictionary
- directions
- headings
- signs and symbols
- floor plans
- newspapers
- choose research material
- drop-down menu
- written directions
- bold print
- narrow topics for research
- use functional documents
- sensory language

The last of the four areas of the Language Arts program at Lyons-Decatur Northeast is writing. Writing instruction will focus on the six traits of writing through various writing types. The six traits of writing are ideas, word choice, voice, sentence fluency, conventions, and organizations. The six traits are taught within the following writing types:

- fiction
- expository
- personal narrative
- ideas
- descriptive sentences
- how-to article, report
- how to sentences
- story
- poem
- persuasive
- descriptive letter
- friendly letter
- realistic fiction
- narrative
- identify and write letters of the alphabet
- recognize & write own name and words