

Course Name	6 th English Language Arts	Course Code	23.111000
School Name	Stone Mountain Middle School	Teacher Name	Ms. Zelda Matthews
School Phone Number	678-676-4802	Teacher Email	zelda_d_matthews@dekalbschoolsga.org
School Website	http://www.stonemountainms.dekalb.k12.ga.us/	Teacher Website	

Course Description

This course is designed to develop and advance students' reading comprehension skills and their use of oral and written language. Students will broaden their reading experiences through the study and analysis of compelling literature. They will use oral language, written language, and media/technology for expressive, informational, argumentative, critical and literary purposes. The overall format of the class is a writer's workshop which is an intensive reading and writing model.

Curriculum Overview

The following academic concepts will be covered. **THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW
Unit 1: Coming of Age - Argumentative
Unit 2: Blast from the Past-Folktales, Traditional Literature, and Mythology – Informative/Explanatory
Unit 3: Courageous Characters – Informative/ Explanatory
Unit 4: Embracing Heritage - Argumentative

BOARD-APPROVED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Title	McDougal Littell Literature
ISBN	978-0-547-07525-9
Online book and/or resources	www.classzone.com

GRADING SYSTEM: The DeKalb County School District believes that the most important assessment of student learning shall be conducted by the teachers as they observe and evaluate students in the context of ongoing classroom instruction. A variety of approaches, methodologies, and resources shall be used to deliver educational services and to maximize each student's opportunity to succeed. Teachers shall evaluate student progress, report grades that represent the student's academic achievement, and communicate official academic progress to students and parents in a timely manner through the electronic grading portal. See **Board Policy IHA.**

GRADING CATEGORIES	*GRADE PROTOCOL		
Formative Assessment - 0%	A	90 – 100	~ P (pass)
Assessment During Learning – 25%	B	80 – 89	~ F (fail)
Guided, Independent, or Group Practice – 45%	C	71 – 79	
Summative Assessment or Assessment of Learning– 30%	D	70	
	F	Below 70	

Notes:

*English Learners (ELs) must not receive numerical or letter grades for the core content areas in elementary and middle school during their first year of language development. A grade of CS or CU must be assigned. This rule may be extended beyond the first year with approval from the EL Studies Program. English Learners must receive a grade for ESOL courses.

DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
STUDENT PROGRESS	Semester progress reports shall be issued four and a half, nine and thirteen and a half weeks into each semester. The progress of students shall be evaluated frequently and plans shall be generated to remediate deficiencies as they are discovered. Plans shall include appropriate interventions designed to meet the needs of the students. See Board Policy IH.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	Students will not engage in an act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, providing false information, falsifying school records, forging signatures, or using an unauthorized computer user ID or password. See the Code of Student Conduct - Student Rights and Responsibilities and Character Development Handbook.
HOMEWORK	Homework assignments should be meaningful and should be an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. Homework is at all times an extension of the teaching/learning experience. It should be considered the possession of the student and should be collected, evaluated and returned to the students. See Board Policy IHB.
MAKE-UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES	When a student is absent because of a legal reason as defined by Georgia law or when the absence is apparently beyond the control of the student, the student shall be given an opportunity to earn grade(s) for those days absent. Make-up work must be completed within the designated time allotted. See Board Policy IHEA.
SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS	Students must adhere to the DCSS Student Code of Conduct, as well as specific class rules.
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	✓ See supply list
EXTRA HELP	Please contact me for extra help and I will provide extra credit work as needed.
PARENTS PARTNERS	AS Homework is expected to be completed as assigned. There is an advance warning for all homework assignments, I hold all students accountable for completing them.