

Penn Wood Middle School 8th Grade English/Language Arts Curriculum Overview

Standards:

Based on PA PDE Standards for grade 8: 1.1.8.A - 1.8.8.C

Common Core Standards:

RL8.1, RL 8.3, RL8.4, RL8.6, RL8.7, RL8.9 (literature)

RI8.1, RI8.3, RI8.4, RI8.6, RI8.9 (informational text)

W8.1, W8.2, W8.4, W8.5, W8.7, W8.8 (writing)

L8.1 – L8.6 (language)

SL8.1, SL8.2, SL8.4, SL8.5, SL8.6 (speaking & listening)

RH6-8.3 – 8 (literacy in history/social studies)

Textbooks:

Holt Elements of Literature, Second Course (anthology)

African American Literature (hardcover 1998)

Holt Elements of Writing, Second Course (grammar & conventions)

Rev It Up, Third Course (word study)

From Phonics to Fluency, Chapter 6, *Teaching Advanced Word Patterns*, p. 60 – 72 (most common Greek and Latin roots in the English language)

Measuring Up Level H (PSSA review & prep)

Novels:

Independent Reading: Student Choice

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself: with Connections

Animal Farm

Walter Dean Myers author study

Assessments:

Benchmarking: Study Island (September, December, February, May)

PSSA: Reading and Math, Writing, Science (3rd marking period)

Quizzes & Tests

Rubrics

Observation

Major Writing Project (each quarter)

Major Quarterly Assessment (multiple choice, plus one open-ended response – except for 3rd marking period)

Penn Wood Middle School 8th Grade English/Language Arts Curriculum Overview

1st Marking Period

Rituals, Routines, and Procedures

Instruction on data-indicated needs & test-taking strategies

Reading:

Core Text: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself: with Connections*

Poetry & Nonfiction connections for *Frederick Douglass*

Connected Readings from anthology and other texts

Key terms:

Text Structure & Organization	Genre & Genres of Literature
Conflict	Dialogue
Informational Documents	Dialect
Fact vs. Opinion	Allusion
Point of view	Text Features
Direct & Indirect Characterization	Poetry
Theme	Irony
Setting	Connotation & Denotation
Anecdote	Author's purpose & perspective
Allusion	Imagery
Flashbacks	Alliteration
Foreshadowing	
Figurative Language (idiom, simile, metaphor, extended metaphor)	

Writing:

pre-assessment

Holt Elements of Literature Second Course: Writing Workshop, Expository Writing: Informative Report (conduct and evaluate research, summarize and paraphrase, write citations)

Language:

Word Study:

Advanced Word Patterns: words #41 - 50 and their Greek and Latin roots

Rev it Up Lessons: 8, 10, 12, 15

Grammar & Conventions:

mini-lessons based on student needs

Formal & Informal Language

End-marks

Capitalization

Speaking & Listening:

Author's Chair

Book talks

Giving & Listening to an Informative Speech

2nd Marking Period

Rituals, Routines, and Procedures

Instruction on data-indicated needs & test-taking strategies

Reading:

Core Text: *Animal Farm*

Poetry & Nonfiction connections for *Animal Farm*

Connected readings from anthology and other texts

Re-emphasize key literary terms from 1st marking period and add:

Personification	Symbolism
Plot & elements of plot	Theme
Allegory, Fable	Conflict
Bias	Figurative Language
Propaganda and types of propaganda	Literary devices
Persuasion and persuasive techniques	
Text structures	
Author's purpose & perspective	
Mood	
Tone, Style	
Atmosphere	

Writing:

Holt Elements of Literature Second Course: Writing Workshop, Persuasive (Supporting a Position)

Language:

Word Study:

Advanced Word Patterns: Words # 52 – 61 and their roots

Rev it Up Lessons: 1, 2, 11, 7,

Grammar & Conventions:

mini-lessons based on student needs

Past & Past Participle forms of regular verbs

Irregular Verbs

Verb Tense

Punctuation & End Marks (including apostrophes & quotation marks)

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Speaking & Listening:

Author's Chair
Book talks
Giving & Listening to a Persuasive Speech

3rd Marking Period (PSSA Testing for Reading, Math, Writing, & Science)

Rituals, Routines, and Procedures

Instruction on data-indicated needs & test-taking strategies

PA Department of Education Reading and Writing Sample Items

Reading:

Holt Anthology Collection 6: Poetry: Sound & Sense
African American Literature Unit Five: Harlem Renaissance
145th Street: Short Stories by Walter Dean Myers

PA Department of Education Sample Items

Re-emphasize key terms from 1st and 2nd marking periods, review for PSSA and add:

Symbol	Epic
Rhyme	Narrative Poem
Rhythm	Lyric Poem
Alliteration	Ode
Assonance	Sonnet
Free Verse	
Ballad	

Writing:

Dream Poems (Dream Flags project)

Language:

Word Study:

Advanced Word Patterns: Words # 62 – 71 and their roots
Rev it Up Lessons: 4, 13, 6
Grammar & Conventions:
mini-lessons based on student needs

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Speaking & Listening:

Author's Chair
Strategies for reading poetry aloud
Holt: Poetry in Performance

4th Marking Period

Rituals, Routines, and Procedures

Instruction on data-indicated needs & test-taking strategies

Reading:

Core Texts: Walter Dean Myers Author Study (*145th Street: Short Stories; Scorpions; Bad Boy; Slam; Hoops; Fast Sam, Cool Clyde and Stuff; Malcolm X; WWII Journal of Scott Pendleton Collins; At Her Majesty's Request; The Glory Field; A Place Called Heartbreak; Blues Journey; Harlem; The Story of Three Kingdoms*)

Connected readings from anthology and other texts

Re-emphasize key terms and connect to this marking period's reading.

Writing:

America's Choice Author Study Materials: Essay on themes of Walter Dean Myers' work

Language:

Word Study:

Advanced Word Patterns: Words # 72– 81 and their roots

Rev it Up: Lessons 3, 14, 16, 9

Grammar & Conventions:

mini-lessons based on student needs

regular & irregular comparisons

double comparisons & double negatives

Speaking & Listening:

Author's Chair
Author Study Roles & Literature Circles