



Grace Lutheran School English Language Arts Curriculum

Rationale based on Scripture

God is the Creator of all things, including English Language Arts. Our school is committed to providing students with a quality education in English Language Arts so they can function effectively as Christians in their church, community, and country. A quality education in English Language Arts will help students succeed in high school, in the work place, and help them witness to friends, neighbors, and co-workers about our Savior.

Exit goals for graduation

Students will demonstrate proficiency, understanding, and/or commitment to the following set of exit goals upon graduation. The level of proficiency of these exit goals will be dependent upon the individual gifts and effort of the student and at what grade the student started attending Grace.

- Demonstrate a positive attitude toward English Language Arts.
- Understanding the structural parts of sentences, paragraphs, and essays/stories.
- Ability to write a sentence or paragraph.
- Ability to find main ideas in paragraphs.
- Practice in taking apart long sentences to find meaning.
- Practice in looking for implied meanings in sentences and paragraphs through selection of vocab, word order and emphasis.
- Using word roots and context to identify word meanings.
- Exposure to different writing styles.
- Increased vocabulary emphasis.
- Peer proof reading exposure.
- Ability to use a bound dictionary.
- Exposure to the library.
- How to identify prejudiced writing and how to avoid it in students' own writing.
- Introduction to literary terms.
- Phonics for sounding out words.
- Introduction to how historical changes have affected writing styles and focus.
- Exposure to and practice with informational texts.
- Exposure to research and research techniques.
- Familiar with common literary devices.
- Able to read using phonemic skills.

Grade specific measureable objectives

At the end of each school year, students will demonstrate proficiency, understanding, and/or commitment to the following set of grade specific measureable objectives in these classifications: knowledge, skills, and attitudes.

The level of proficiency of these measureable objectives will be dependent upon the individual gifts and effort of the student and at what time of year the student started attending Grace.

(Press Ctrl and Click on a link to jump to a grade's measureable objectives)

[Kindergarten](#)

[First Grade](#)

[Second Grade](#)

[Third Grade](#)

[Fourth Grade](#)

[Fifth Grade](#)

[Sixth Grade](#)

[Seventh Grade](#)

[Eighth Grade](#)

Kindergarten

Kindergarten's ELA's curriculum is combined in the new Houghton-Mifflin curriculum we purchased at the beginning of 2013.

See the Kindergarten's ELA weekly plans for measurable objectives.

First Grade

Nouns

- Definition of Nouns
- Common and Proper Nouns
- Singular and Plural Nouns

Verbs

- Definition of Verbs
- Action and Linking Verbs
- Present and Past Verbs
- Irregular Verbs

Adjectives

- Definition of Adjectives
- Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

Adverbs

- Definition of Adverbs

Pronouns

- Definition of Pronouns
- Subject Pronouns
- Object Pronouns

Phonics

- Phonics is taught in grades 1st-4th
- See lists of grade specific phonics lessons

Reading

- Grades 1st-4th use Houghton Mifflin for Reading
- Students read one or two stories a week out of the basal, answer factual and application questions, and work with a variety of literary devices.

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.
- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Second Grade

Nouns

- Definition of Nouns
- Common and Proper Nouns
- Singular, Plural, and Possessive Nouns

Verbs

- Definition of Verbs
- Action and Linking Verbs
- Present and Past Verbs
- Irregular Verbs

Adjectives

- Definition of Adjectives
- Comparative and Superlative Adjectives
- Articles: a, an, the

Adverbs

- Definition of Adverbs

Pronouns

- Definition of Pronouns
- Subject Pronouns
- Object Pronouns

Phonics

- Phonics is taught in grades 1st-4th
- See lists of grade specific phonics lessons

Reading

- Grades 1st-4th use Scott Foresman for Reading
- Students read one or two stories a week out of the basal, answer factual and application questions, and work with a variety of literary devices.

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.
- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Third Grade

Nouns

- Common and Proper nouns
- Names and Titles
- Place nouns
- Calendar Words

Verbs

- Verbs with special past forms
- The Verb be
- Main verbs and helping verbs
- Using Irregular verbs
- Contractions

Adjectives

- Adjectives that tell how many
- Adjectives that tell what kind
- Adjectives that compare
- Using a, an and the

Adverbs

- Writing with Adverbs
- Adverbs that tell How

Pronouns

- Subject pronouns
- Object pronouns
- Possessive pronouns
- Using I and Me

Sentences

- Word order in sentences
- Statements and questions
- Commands and exclamations
- Sentence parts
- Subjects in sentences
- Predicates in sentences
- Nouns in sentences
- Verbs in sentences

Phonics

- See lists of grade specific phonics lessons

Reading

- Grades K-6th use Houghton Mifflin for Reading
- Students read one or two stories a week out of the basal, answer factual and application questions, and work with a variety of literary devices.

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.

- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Fourth Grade

Nouns

- Writing with nouns
- Singular and plural nouns
- Spelling plural nouns
- Common and proper nouns
- Using Capitals with proper nouns
- Singular possessive nouns
- Plural possessive nouns

Verbs

- Writing with action verbs
- Linking verbs
- Using linking verbs
- Main verbs and helping verbs
- Tenses of verbs
- Spelling verbs correctly
- Using subjects and verbs that agree
- Using irregular verbs
- Contractions with verbs
- Contractions with *not*

Adjectives

- Writing with Adjectives
- Using *a, an, the*
- Adjectives after linking verbs
- Adjectives that compare
- Using *more* and *most* with adjectives
- Adjectives and irregular comparisons

Adverbs

- Writing with Adverbs
- Adverbs that tell *Where* and *When*
- Adverbs that compare

Pronouns

- Writing with pronouns
- Subject pronouns
- Object pronouns
- Possessive pronouns
- Using *I, me, we, us*

Sentences

- Declarative, Interrogative, Imperative and Exclamatory
- Subjects and predicates
- Reviewing parts of speech
- Simple subjects and simple predicates
- Compound subjects and compound predicates
- Compound sentences
- Commas in compound sentences

Phonics

- See lists of grade specific phonics lessons

Reading

- Grades K-6th use Houghton Mifflin for Reading
- Students read one or two stories a week out of the basal, answer factual and application questions, and work with a variety of literary devices.
- 4th graders also start reading novels in place of the reading basal.

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.
- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Fifth Grade

Nouns

- Writing with nouns
- Singular & plural nouns
- Common and proper nouns
- Capitalizing proper nouns
- Abbreviations
- Possessive nouns
- Context clues

Verbs

- Writing with action verbs
- Linking verbs
- Main verbs and helping verbs
- Direct objects
- Tenses of verbs (present, past, future)
- Using present tense (subject/verb agreement)
- Using irregular verbs
- Troublesome verb pairs (can/may, sit/set)
- Prefixes

Adjectives

- Writing with Adjectives
- Adjectives after linking verbs
- Adjectives that compare
- Using more or most with adjectives
- Adjective suffixes

Adverbs

- Writing with adverbs
- Adverbs that compare
- Adverbs before adjectives and other adverbs
- Using adverbs and adjectives
- Using negative words
- Compounds

Pronouns

- Writing with pronouns
- Subject pronouns
- Object pronouns
- Using pronouns (subject or object??)
- Contractions
- Homophones

Prepositions

- Writing with prepositions
- Prepositional phrases
- Prepositions and adverbs
- Using prepositional phrases
- Synonyms and antonyms

Sentences

- Writing sentences (sentence/not a sentence)
- 4 kinds of sentences
- Complete subjects & predicates
- Subjects in imperative sentences
- Compound subjects
- Subject/verb agreement
- Compound predicates
- Compound sentences
- Avoiding run-on sentences
- Homographs

Reading

- Students read three or four novels a year, answer factual and application questions, and work with a variety of literary devices.
- Following are novels that have been used the last several years: Where the Red Fern Grows, Hatchet, Brian's Winter, Holes, The Westing Game

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.
- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Sixth Grade

Nouns

- Writing with nouns
- Singular & plural nouns
- Common and proper nouns
- Capitalizing proper nouns
- Possessive nouns
- Compounds

Verbs

- Writing with action verbs

- Linking verbs
- Main verbs and helping verbs
- Direct objects
- Tenses of verbs (present, past, future)
- Principal parts of verbs
- Using irregular verbs
- Troublesome verb pairs (can/may, sit/set, lie/lay, teach/learn)
- Prefixes

Adjectives

- Writing with Adjectives
- Proper adjectives
- Predicate adjectives
- Demonstrative adjectives
- Adjectives that compare
- Adjective suffixes

Adverbs

- Writing with adverbs
- Adverbs that compare
- Using adverbs and adjectives
- Avoiding double negatives
- Synonyms & antonyms

Pronouns

- Writing with pronouns
- Antecedents
- Subject & object pronouns
- Possessive pronouns
- Using pronouns (after linking or action)
- Contractions
- Connotations

Prepositions

- Writing with prepositions
- Prepositional phrases as adjectives
- Prepositional phrases as adverbs
- Using prepositional phrases
- Writing with conjunctions
- Homophones & homographs

Sentences

- 4 kinds of sentences

- Complete subjects & predicates
- Simple subjects & predicates
- Finding subjects in sentences
- Compound subjects & predicates
- Compound sentences
- Subject/verb agreement
- Verbs with compound subjects
- Run-ons & fragments sentences

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Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
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Seventh Grade

Nouns

- Kinds of Nouns
- Compound and Collective Nouns
- Singular and Plural Nouns
- Possessive Nouns

Verbs

- Kinds of Verbs
- Verbs Phrases
- Tenses
- Forms of be, have and do
- Irregular Verbs
- More Irregular Verbs
- Progressive Forms

- Transitive and Intransitive Verbs
- Direct and Indirect Objects
- Predicate Nouns and Adjectives
- Active and Passive Voices
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- More about Subject-Verb Agreement
- Inverted and Interrupted Order
- Lie, lay; rise, raise
- Affect, effect; accept, except

Adjectives

- Adjectives
- Comparing with Adjectives

Adverbs

- Adverbs
- Comparing with Adverbs
- Negatives
- Adjective or Adverb

Pronouns

- Personal and Possessive Pronouns
- Pronoun Antecedents
- Pronoun Case
- Interrogative Pronouns
- Demonstrative Pronouns
- Indefinite Pronouns
- Reflexive and Intensive Pronouns
- Choosing the Right Pronoun

Prepositions

- Prepositional Phrases
- Prepositional Phrases as Modifiers
- Choosing Correct Prepositions
- Verbals: Participles
- Participial Phrases
- Verbals: Gerunds
- Gerund Phrases
- Verbals: Infinitives
- Infinitive Phrases

Interjections and Punctuation

- Interjections
- Sentences and Interjections

- Proper Nouns and Proper Adjectives
- Uses for Commas
- More Uses for Commas
- Dates, Addresses, and letters
- Quotation Marks

Sentences

- Kinds of Sentences
- Complete Subjects and Complete Predicates
- Simple Subjects and Simple Predicates
- Finding the Subject
- Compound Subjects and Compound Predicates
- Compound Sentences
- Conjunctions
- Complex Sentence
- Fragments and Run-ons
- Titles of Long Works
- Colons and Semicolons
- Abbreviations and Numbers
- Apostrophes
- Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses

Reading

- Students read three or four novels a year, answer factual and application questions, and work with a variety of literary devices.
- 7th-8th Reading Novel Selection
 - Roll of Thunder
 - True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
 - Fever of 1973
 - Swiss Family Robinson
 - Streams to the River
 - Z for Zechariah
 - SOS Titanic
 - AL Capone
 - The Outsiders
- Literary Devices taught while reading novels:
 - Setting
 - Narrator point of view
 - Symbolism
 - Imagery
 - Allegory

- Tone
- Plot
- Major Characters
- Minor Characters
- Conflict
- Themes
- Mood
- Foreshadowing
- Irony
- Personification
- Poetry Unit
 - Read poetry
 - Listen to poetry
 - Discuss poetry
 - Explain poetry
 - Write poetry
 - Explore different types of poetry
 - Research poetry and poets
 - Make a poetry anthology

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.
- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Eighth Grade

Nouns

- Kinds of Nouns
- Compound and Collective Nouns
- Singular and Plural Nouns
- Possessive Nouns

Verbs

- Kinds of Verbs
- Verbs Phrases
- Tenses
- Forms of be, have and do
- Irregular Verbs
- More Irregular Verbs

- Progressive Forms
- Transitive and Intransitive Verbs
- Direct and Indirect Objects
- Predicate Nouns and Adjectives
- Active and Passive Voices
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- More about Subject-Verb Agreement
- Inverted and Interrupted Order
- Lie, lay; rise, raise
- Affect, effect; accept, except

Adjectives

- Adjectives
- Comparing with Adjectives

Adverbs

- Adverbs
- Comparing with Adverbs
- Negatives
- Adjective or Adverb?

Pronouns

- Personal and Possessive Pronouns
- Pronoun Antecedents
- Pronoun Case
- Interrogative Pronouns
- Demonstrative Pronouns
- Indefinite Pronouns
- Reflexive and Intensive Pronouns
- Choosing the Right Pronoun

Prepositions

- Prepositional Phrases
- Prepositional Phrases as Modifiers
- Choosing Correct Prepositions
- Verbals: Participles
- Participial Phrases
- Verbals: Gerunds
- Gerund Phrases
- Verbals: Infinitives
- Infinitive Phrases

Interjections and Punctuation

- Interjections

- Sentences and Interjections
- Proper Nouns and Proper Adjectives
- Uses for Commas
- More Uses for Commas
- Dates, Addresses, and letters
- Quotation Marks

Sentences

- Kinds of Sentences
- Complete Subjects and Complete Predicates
- Simple Subjects and Simple Predicates
- Finding the Subject
- Compound Subjects and Compound Predicates
- Compound Sentences
- Conjunctions
- Complex Sentence
- Fragments and Run-ons
- Titles of Long Works
- Colons and Semicolons
- Abbreviations and Numbers
- Apostrophes
- Hyphens, Dashes, and Parentheses

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- The Outsiders
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 - Plot
 - Major Characters
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 - Conflict
 - Themes
 - Mood
 - Foreshadowing
 - Irony
 - Personification
- Poetry Unit
 - Read poetry
 - Listen to poetry
 - Discuss poetry
 - Explain poetry
 - Write poetry
 - Explore different types of poetry
 - Research poetry and poets
 - Make a poetry anthology

Spelling

- Grades 1st-8th use Houghton Mifflin for spelling.
- Each week students are tested on a list of words at the beginning and end of the week.
- Students also complete several unit pages that work on vocabulary, homophones, antonyms, phonics, etc.

Evidence of continuity from grade to grade

The curriculum is constructed using skill-based measurable objectives so that the knowledge, attitudes, and skills learned in each grade form building blocks for what is taught in the succeeding grades.

K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	Objectives
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Nouns
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Verbs
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Adjectives
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Adverbs
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Pronouns
X							X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Prepositions
							X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Conjunctions
							X	X	8 Parts of Speech: Interjections
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Understanding the structural parts of sentences, paragraphs, and essays/stories
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ability to write a sentence or paragraph
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ability to find main ideas in paragraphs
							X	X	Practice in taking apart long sentences to find meaning
			X	X	X	X	X	X	Practice in looking for implied meanings in sentences and paragraphs through selection of vocab, word order and emphasis
			X	X			X	X	Using word roots and context to identify word meanings
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Exposure to different writing styles
					X	X	X	X	Increased vocabulary emphasis
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Peer proof reading exposure
	X	X			X	X	X	X	Ability to use a bound dictionary
			X	X	X	X	X	X	Exposure to the library
							X	X	How to identify prejudiced writing and how to avoid it in students' own writing
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Introduction to literary terms
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Phonics for sounding out words
							X	X	Introduction to how historical changes have affected writing styles and focus
X		X			X	X	X	X	Exposure to and practice with informational texts
		X			X	X	X	X	Exposure to research and research techniques

Assessment of the academic growth and achievement of each student

Each individual teacher will assess the academic growth of their students on a regular basis through a variety of methods (e.g., daily questioning, worksheets, class participation, quizzes, tests, projects, and presentations).