

5/6 Humanities Curriculum Disclosure
Susie Mizerak
susie@slarts.org

Humanities class includes language arts, social studies and the many things that make people interesting: ideas, cultures, art, histories, music, literature, inventions, and much more. This year our school wide theme is "Making Connections." This year, the focus in Humanities will be ancient civilizations, from the beginning of humankind to the Middle Ages, approximately 1000 A.D. We will look at where people settled, types of governments, daily lives, inventions, and how things have changed over time. We will integrate these concepts with our school theme, "Making Connections" and the arts.

Specific Language Arts Skills :

Following Directions; Speaking/Storytelling; Research/Reports; Internet Website Navigation and Usage
Reading; Word Study; Conventions: capitalization, punctuation, grammar, format, spelling
Genre; Comprehension/Connections to self, world, text
Writing; Handwriting: print/cursive; Journals; Poetry; Drama

Reading Workshop

Students will be required to:

- read and comprehend a variety of genres, including poetry, with an emphasis on historical fiction and non-fiction
- read independently, with partners, in teacher-directed small groups, student directed small groups
- listen during read-aloud, discussions, peer presentations, (and any time listening will help the student understand, comprehend or learn about the world around them)
- develop oral language skills by participating in, and creating presentations on current events, poetry, skits and plays, etc.
- Complete book reviews and present them to peers

Writing Workshop:

Students will be required to:

- use a writer's notebook to generate and collect ideas, as well as express their thinking

- Participate fully in full writing process including pre-writing, revising, editing, final drafts and publishing
- share their writing and ideas
- conference and give feedback to teacher and peers about their writing, including help with generating perspective, editing and revising
- Keep a working portfolio
- practice handwriting and cursive

Social Studies: Students can expect to gain knowledge and understanding in the following areas:

Cultures; Map Skills; Time and Change; People and Places; Groups and Institutions; Power and Governments; Global Connections; Science and Arts; World Religions

**All of these skills and points of knowledge will be attained through reading, discussions, research, writing reports, hands-on activities, dramatizations, simulations, videos, and games.*

Library :

We will be making regular trips the to Salt Lake City Library. We will be walking together as a class and appropriate behavior is expected at all times. Students must be prepared with their OWN library card to take out their books. No student may check out a book for a friend as this may cause issues with overdue or missing books.

******All students need to obtain a Library card prior to the first trip to the library. If you reside outside Salt Lake County, please inform me as soon as possible so that I can make arrangements for your child.******

Arts:

Music, visual art, dance and drama will be incorporated into all areas of our learning. Emphasis will be placed on arts that enhance understanding of historical events.

Personal and Social Behavior:

Showing and giving respect to self, others, materials and space is the philosophy that guides our classroom community. Students are expected to commit to the creation of a safe, positive and social way of being.

Can I Bring "?" to class?:

Before you bring something to class ask yourself if it is a tool for learning. If it is not something to enhance your learning, it should not be in class. Please do not bring:
Electronic devices: Cell phones, Blackberries, i-pods, games etc.

If you are found with an electronic device :

- First time: It will be turned into the office until your parents pick it up
- Second time: It will be turned into the office for one month.
- Third time: It will be turned into the office until the end of the school year.

Grading: Grades are rubric based scores ranging from 1-5 on three main standards of excellence:

1. Mastery of Grade Level Concepts/ Skills
2. Participation/ Effort/ Preparation/ Risk Taking (PEPR)
3. Cooperation/ Attitude/ Behavior (CAB).

All class work, assignments, homework, and projects will follow the same grading rubric. Grades can be found online and will be updated on a weekly basis.

Homework:

- Homework should be about half an hour each night. Sometimes, if an assignment is due on Friday, work must be split up over several nights. If you wait until the last night, you will have more than 30 minutes in one night.

Be Ready Each Day :

Two Sharpened pencils
Writer's notebook
Binder
Complete homework and/or special projects
Brain

I have read and understand the classroom responsibilities and agree to these expectations,

Student Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

