

## **Oak Meadows 8th grade Language Arts**

### **Class Description:**

This Language Arts class is meant to be integrated with the Oak Meadows 8th grade Social Studies course on Civics. Using new vocabulary from the Civics, students work on words as well as spelling. They will learn grammar directly and in context, studying concepts such as hyperbole, modifiers, sentence variety, etc. Student work on composition, using all the steps to writing and learning various genres of writing. They also engage in hands-on projects to apply their learning throughout the course. Literature combines with factual learning in history to make a more complete picture.

### **Learning Materials: Main Curriculum:**

Oak Meadows 8th grade English

### Supplementary:

The Giver  
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy  
Lord of the Flies  
A Wrinkle in Time  
Call of the Wild  
Tom Sawyer  
The Hobbit

**Learning Goals/Performance Objectives:** 8.L.01 Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

8.L.02 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

8.L.03 Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

8.L.04 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

8.L.05 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

8.L.06 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

**Learning Activities:** The student will complete one lesson per week, for a total of 36 lessons. Each lesson contains vocabulary work, spelling, grammar, reading, writing, and projects.

Lesson 1: The Giver, chapters 1-6

Writing about Writing

Reviewing Outlines

Writer's Rant: Reading is Fundamental!

Lesson 2: The Giver, chapters 7-11

Word Choice

Overdone Phrases & Empty Expressions

Writer's Rant: Synonym Toast, Part I

Lesson 3: The Giver, chapters 12-16

Prefixes & Suffixes

Writer's Rant: Synonym Toast, Part II

Lesson 4: The Giver, chapters 17-23

Writer's Rant: It is What it is

Lesson 5: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, chapters 1-4

Adjectives & Adverbs

Comparatives & Superlatives

Writer's Rant: Requiem for an Apostrophe

Lesson 6: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, chapters 5-13

Verbs

Dialect & Slang

Onomatopoeia & Alliteration

Clichés

Writer's Rant: Serious Serials

Lesson 7: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, chapters 14-24

Personification

Writer's Rant: Sentence DNA

Lesson 8: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, chapters 25-35

Prepositions

Writer's Rant: Between the Lines, Part I

Lesson 9: Lord of the Flies, chapters 1-2

Symbolism

Colons & Semicolons

Parentheses & Dashes

Writer's Rant: Between the Lines, Part II

Lesson 10: Lord of the Flies, chapters 3-4

Transitions

Writer's Rant: Don't Quote Me

Lesson 11: Lord of the Flies, chapters 5-7

Sentence Fragments & Run-Ons

Writer's Rant: In Parentheses

Lesson 12: Lord of the Flies, chapters 8-10

Hyperbole

Writer's Rant: Semi-Tough

Lesson 13: Lord of the Flies, chapters 11-12

Parallel Construction

Writer's Rant: Sic 'em

Lesson 14: A Wrinkle in Time, chapters 1-3

Foreshadowing

Misplaced & Dangling Modifiers

Writer's Rant: Literally, Literally!

Lesson 15: A Wrinkle in Time, chapters 4-5

Writer's Rant: Each of None

Lesson 16: A Wrinkle in Time, chapters 6-7  
Sentence Combining  
Writer's Rant: A Case of Pronouns  
Lesson 17: A Wrinkle in Time, chapters 8-10  
Sentence Variety  
Writer's Rant: We are in Agreement  
Lesson 18: A Wrinkle in Time, chapters 11-12  
Repetition  
Stream-of-Consciousness  
Writer's Rant: License to (mis) Spell  
Lesson 19: Call of the Wild, chapters 1-2  
Tone  
Paragraphs  
Writer's Rant: Do You, Like, Like "Like?"  
Lesson 20: Call of the Wild, chapters 3-4  
Character Development  
Writer's Rant: The Kids are all right  
Lesson 21: Call of the Wild, chapters 5-6  
Writer's Rant: Another Lot of Bother  
Lesson 22: Call of the Wild, chapters 7  
Setting  
Writer's Rant: Among, Between Friends  
Lesson 23: Tom Sawyer, chapters 1-5  
Plot  
Writer's Rant: Effect an Affect  
Lesson 24: Tom Sawyer, chapters 6-10  
Dialogue  
Point of View  
Writer's Rant: Listen!  
Lesson 25: Tom Sawyer, chapters 11-16  
Writer's Rant: Three's a Crowd  
Lesson 26: Tom Sawyer, chapters 17-24  
Drafting  
Writer's Rant: Four's a Crowd  
Lesson 27: Tom Sawyer, chapters 25-30  
Interviews  
Writer's Rant: Love Letters  
Lesson 28: Tom Sawyer, chapters 31-35  
Reviews  
Writer's Rant: Galling Gallicisms, Part I  
Lesson 29: The Hobbit, chapters 1-2  
Simile & Metaphor  
Writer's Rant: Galling Gallicisms, Part II  
Lesson 30: The Hobbit, chapters 3-4  
Limericks & Haiku  
Writer's Rant: If I were in the Mood

Lesson 31: The Hobbit, chapters 5-6

Maps

Writer's Rant: Check Mate

Lesson 32: The Hobbit, chapters 7-8

Greeting Cards

Writer's Rant: Tell it Slant

Lesson 33: The Hobbit, chapters 9-11

Word Games

Writer's Rant: In Your Own Words

Lesson 34: The Hobbit, chapters 12-14

Advertising

Writer's Rant: Trick and Treat

Lesson 35: The Hobbit, chapters 15-17

Writer's Rant: Get Back

Lesson 36: The Hobbit, chapters 18-19

News

Writer's Rant: All the News that Fits

**Progress Criteria/Methods of Evaluation:** For successful completion of this course, the student will complete at least 70% of the lessons/goals, at a minimum of 70% accuracy. Formative assessments will be given throughout the year as deemed necessary. Each week the student will take a spelling test.

Timeline:

Sept: Lessons 1-4

Oct: Lessons 5-9

Nov: Lessons 10-12

Dec: Lessons 13-15

Jan: Lessons 16-20

Feb: Lessons 21-23

Mar: Lessons 24-27

April: Lessons 28-30

May: Lessons 31-34

June: Lessons 35-36