

READING & LANGUAGE ARTS

Miss Reynolds

Class Binder

In order to keep students organized and prepared, students will keep a 1 1/2 inch reading, spelling, and writing binder. Binders will contain Daily Language reviews, weekly spelling assignments, grammar and writing assignments, loose leaf paper, and other class materials.

Interactive Notebooks

Students will use a three subject spiral notebook for class notes and reading comprehension strategies addressing skills needed for the fifth grade SOL test. Notebooks will be divided into sections for vocabulary, fiction, and nonfiction reading. Notebooks will remain in the classroom and will only be permitted to go home when deemed appropriate. These notebooks are used every day, so it is important that they remain at school and are well taken care of by students.

Roots and Affixes Study Cards

In an effort to expand students' vocabulary and increase student ability to decode unfamiliar words, students will be required to keep a ring of root and affixes study cards. These cards will be developed and used primarily in class and workshop. In the second semester, students will be provided with a master list of all roots and affixes to be studied for weekly quizzes.



Grading and Expectations

Please review the following information with your student and sign. This signature will count as your student's first homework grade. Return both pages of the document as it will be placed in students' binders.

X _____

Parent/Guardian

X _____

Student

Wondering what we will be doing in class this week? Student can't remember tonight's homework? Looking for helpful links and information? Check out the 5th grade Weebly at www.eems5thgrade.weebly.com/miss-reynolds.html

Want to receive reminders about important things coming up for your student? Sign up for text messages or emails using the information attached or found online for **Remind**.

Grading

Quizzes -

Quizzes on vocabulary, reading, or grammar concepts are possibly during each six weeks and will be announced in advance, so that students have adequate time to prepare. Generally, there will be a DOL quiz on grammar and a Plicker quiz on in class vocabulary study each week. All quizzes will be counted once toward the six weeks average.

Assignments -

With each reading unit, various assignments will be given. These assignments will be counted once toward the six weeks average.

Homework -

Homework will generally be given Monday through Thursday. Spelling homework will be assigned each week. All homework will be a reinforcement of the skills being taught in class. Homework grades will be counted as such on the six week average. Homework will be written in students' trackers for the week each Monday, but is subject to change. Homework will also be posted on the Weebly page.

Unit Tests -

Following the completion of each reading unit (which may be individual stories, novels, or other works of fiction or nonfiction text) a unit test will be given. The unit test will contain one or more blind passages with questions pertaining to it based on the SOL skills covered in class. These blind passages and questions will model the type of information seen on the SOL test. Unit tests will be taken on the computer to give students practice with the manner in which the SOL will be taken in the spring. Tests will be counted twice toward the six weeks average. Test grades will be written in students' trackers and any grade below 70 will require an adult signature.

Projects -

Various projects will be assigned during the year including both a fiction and nonfiction book report. Additional information will be provided at the time of the assignment and will count as a project grade on the six weeks in which it is assigned.

Reading Rewards and Accelerated Reader

Starting this year, there will be a change in the ways that you can earn reading reward points. While you may still continue to take AR tests and earn points that way, you will also have the opportunity to complete various projects as a way to earn reading points.

You must earn 10 reading reward points per six weeks in order to receive a reading reward for that six weeks period. You may choose to take AR tests and earn points; however, you must also complete at least one project from the reading choice board.

Projects on the choice boards are organized by points. You choose the project or projects you would like to complete, and complete them to receive the points. You may choose to earn all of your reading rewards points by doing projects or you may choose to only do one project and make up the rest of the points by taking AR tests.

When using the project choice boards you are not limited to only reading books that have AR tests. You can also read anything you would like including newspapers, magazines, cookbooks, comic books, graphic novels, brochures, etc.

Remember: You are required to gain 10 points per six weeks for the reading reward including points from at least one choice board project. If the AR movie trip takes place again this year, students are required to have 25 total AR points total (which would include two choice board projects). *Choice Boards will be posted in the classroom, as well as online. Students may request a copy of the choice boards.

What can we find in my class binder?

Writing Assignments -

Each six weeks students will be working on a specific type and purpose for writing. Assignments will be given in class and as homework to address the skills and processes used in each type of writing. At the end of each six weeks, a final piece of writing, of the type addressed, will be collected and graded. While writing is no longer tested by SOL test in fifth grade, these final papers will serve to show the writing SOLs are being covered. Writing samples will be collected as proof that writing is being covered and may not be returned.

Grammar-

Skills and SOL material pertaining to grammar will be covered through a mixture of daily DOL practice and targeted skills practice. Students will complete DOLs each day and will receive a quiz on a combination of the daily practice problems from that week each Friday. All DOL material will be kept in students' binders for review. Other skills practice work and quizzes will be assigned as necessary.

Reading Practice-

Reading practice work not placed in students' interactive notebooks will be placed in the binder for review.

Spelling-

Fifth grade spelling is considered to be mainly an independent subject. Students will consistently be given the same spelling homework schedule every week. Spelling assignments will be completed from students' binders. All nightly assignments will counted as spelling homework grades that will count once toward the six weeks average. Failure to complete these assignments will result in a zero in the grade book. Students will be placed into one of three spelling groups based on beginning of the year testing. Please note the list name at the top of your student's list. Spelling practice can be found online at <https://www.spellingcity.com/MissReynoldsEEMS/>. Spelling tests will be given online through Spelling City; however, students may request to or be asked to take the spelling test aloud paper/pencil when necessary.

Monday: Students will write their new spelling list two times; once in print and once in cursive. A cursive page will also be placed in students' binders for reference.

Tuesday: Students will be assigned a vocabulary page for the week's spelling words. A dictionary would serve as a helpful resource for these pages, but is not required.

Wednesday: Students will write five sentences in their spelling notebooks. They may choose any five spelling words from their list to write these sentences. Sentences should be creative and contain context clues in order to let me know that the student understands the meaning of the chosen spelling word. Sentences will be graded on proper grammar and context.

Thursday: This day will be allowed for an extra day of studying before the spelling test on Friday. However, students should not wait until this day to start studying, but should start reviewing their words on Monday, and every night thereafter, in order to truly know the words instead of "cramming" for the test.

Friday: There will be no spelling homework given on Friday. Spelling tests will be given on this day. Tests will be given online using Spelling City or paper/pencil if needed. Test grades will be counted twice.