



Playing with Words

Essential Questions

“Why do authors play with language?”

“How do authors play with language?”



Dear Parents,

This four-week unit encourages students to experiment with language and explore their personal writing style.

Reading Literature and Informational Text

When reading stories, dramas and poems, students will explain how chapters in book, scenes in a play, or stanzas in a poem fit together. They will determine the meaning of words and phrases including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)

Students will read books and poems fluently with purpose and understanding. They will use their knowledge of letter sounds, spelling patterns and word part meanings (roots words and affixes) to read unfamiliar words. Students will use the context of the text to help them self-correct word meaning and check for understanding.

Writing

Students will write stories about real and imagined experiences. They will use dialogue, description and pacing to develop the events and show the responses of characters to situations. With help, students will organize writing according to its purpose, and will improve their writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. Students will use technology produce and publish writing.

Listening and Speaking

Students will discuss grade-level topics and text. They will follow rules for discussions and will ask and answer questions to contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others. They will add graphics and sound when appropriate to enhance presentations.

Language (Conventions of Standard English and Vocabulary)

Students will use verbs to tell about times and sequences. They will spell grade appropriate words correctly using references as needed. They will use commas correctly in sentences and determine the meanings of words and phrases from the texts they are reading. In addition to comparing and contrasting dialects and registers used in stories, poems and drama, students will play with words as they expand, combine and reduce sentences for meaning, interest and style.

Handwriting & Keyboarding

Fifth graders are expected to maintain legible manuscript and cursive on lined paper with proper proportion, size and spacing. They will use keyboarding skills for a variety of class work. By the end of the year, students should be able to type two pages in a single setting using menu driven commands for formatting and editing.