

Course Description and Objectives:

The English Language Arts Curriculum is designed to review and develop core concepts and expand on those concepts as students progress throughout the year. Students will develop and practice the skills necessary to: 1.) comprehend and interpret informational and literary texts; 2.) compose a variety of written texts, including narrative and argumentative writing, summaries, and responses to literature; 3.) effectively communicate and interact with others using Standard English in individual and group situations; and 4.) effectively communicate information through different modes of presentation. The English Language Arts curriculum integrates the processes of reading, writing, grammar and listening/speaking/viewing to help students effectively communicate and interpret information in a variety of modes.

Textbook:

HMH Into Literature (print and digital)

Novels:

The Giver by Lois Lowry *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio *Gifted Hands* by Ben Carson, MD

Unit/Concept Names:

Unit 1: Development of Characters/Ideas Unit 2: Central Ideas Unit 3: Text Structure Unit 4: Point of View Unit 5: Summarizing Text Unit 6: Text Analysis

Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy:

- Minor Grades 60% (Quizzes and Classwork)
- Major Grades 40% (Unit Tests, Research Papers, Projects and Culminating Assessments)

Academic Grading Scale:

- A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)
- Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- Please contact the front office at 706-592-3730 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

Academic Dishonesty:

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance, or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as "incomplete", and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.



Late Work:

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student's work habits.

Make-up Work:

Students are expected to make up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned as needed. Homework will be standards-based, provide an opportunity for independent practice, and be relevant to what students are currently learning.

Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures):

Students will have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for any **major assessment**. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, a student will be given a minimum of two opportunities to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment are expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval. Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

Cell phones:

Cell Phones are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

- **First offense** will receive an explicit **verbal warning**.
- **Further offense** will receive a **parent phone call**.
- **Repeated offenses** will result in **phone confiscation**.
- In this case, a parent will need to request the phone be returned in person.

Classroom Procedures & Expectations:

The overarching expectation in this class is RESPECT: respect for self, respect for other students, respect for the teacher and/or any individual in authority, and respect for the learning environment. Additionally, the following is expected:

- 1. Arrive to class on time.
- 2. Bring all necessary materials to class.
- 3. Remain seated during instruction.
- 4. Raise your hand to speak.
- 5. Put away cell phones and other electronic devices.
- 6. Adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations outlined in the student handbook and Pine Hill Middle School's norms.

Course Materials/Supply List:

- 3-ring binder
- tab dividers
- notebook filler paper (college ruled)
- pens and/or pencils

- highlighters
- earbuds
- colored pencils (optional)

Donations are appreciated for the following: hand sanitizer and Kleenex/tissue boxes.



Please refer to the *Student Code of Conduct* for further guidance on Richmond County School System's policies and procedures.

My contact information:	hudsoAn@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us
Remind messages:	@phmshudson
Pine Hill Middle School Phone Number:	706-592-3730

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student Name (Printed):	
Student's Signature:	
Date:	
Parent/Guardian's Name:	
Parent/Guardian's Signature:	
Date:	
Parent Phone Number:	
Email:	