

Communication Arts/Reading Syllabus for Mr. McKenna's Class 2015-2016

Overall Goal: For each student to improve his/her reading, writing, and speaking skills to ensure success and self-reliance in any environment.

Skills Covered: reading decoding and comprehension (Phono-graphix Reading Program will be used to teach decoding); writing legible and meaningful words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs; reading and creating poetry; starting/maintaining a conversation; speaking appropriately for a variety of situations; learning and using new vocabulary; learning and using the correct form of common verbs; knowing/understanding/using survival words, and any IEP goals not mentioned.

Note: much of the reading, writing, and speaking instruction will involve life skills, so our students can develop the necessary skills to get along and succeed in any situation.

Assessment and Grading: My paras and I will assess informally during instruction. Your student's IEP goals will be formally assessed and reported to you according to his/her IEP. Grades will be based mostly on work ethic and willingness to try, not on the amount of work completed or the percentage correct. For certain skills, mastery tests will be given when the student is ready. The STAR Reading Test will be used to determine comprehension level when appropriate.

Parents, if there is anything not listed above that you want us to cover, please get in touch with me, and we'll work something out.

Please remind your student, as we will throughout the year, that trying your best and failing at something is almost always the **PATH TO SUCCESS** as long as you don't give up. If we are already good at something, then we don't need to learn it. It is our weaknesses we need to work on, so trying and failing over and over is a great recipe for eventual success. True self-esteem and confidence come from hard work and accomplishments.

Contact Information:

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