

The middle school reading curriculum incorporates a balanced literacy approach using shared reading, interactive read alouds, and workshop model developed from The Teacher's College Reading and Writing Project

- o Students are matched with books that they can read with accuracy, fluency, and comprehension.



# Deerfield School's Guide to LAL

**A Guide to Middle School Reader's and Writer's Workshop**



## 6th Grade Units of Study

### Reading Workshop:

#### Turning Every Kid Into a Reader

- Notice & Note signposts
- Reader Response journals

#### Realistic Fiction

- Elements: character & theme

#### Nonfiction - 2 units of study

*A Study of Text Complexity*

*Reading Across Text Sets*

#### Poetry

- Elements & Terms
- Interpreting figurative language

#### BOOK CLUBS - 3 units of study

*Historical Fiction*

*Social Issues*

*Science Fiction/Fantasy*

### Writing Workshop:

#### Narrative - 3 units of study

*Personal Narrative*

*Fan Fiction*

*Short Stories (Sci-Fi/Fantasy)*

#### Research-based Informational Writing

- Using text sets & quotes
- Sentence complexity and structure

#### Argument Writing/Literary Essay

- Crafting a claim (character/theme)
- Comparing and Contrasting

#### Poetry

- Blackout poetry
- Finding poems
- Seeing our world as inspiration
- Sounds and meanings of words

## 7th Grade Units of Study

### Reading Workshop:

#### From Characters to Characterization:

Building an Independent and Analytic Reading

- Realistic fiction book clubs
- Journal entries

#### Social Issues/ Holocaust Book Clubs

-Literary essays on conflict, setting and theme

#### Argument Reading: Nonfiction

Research Across Text Sets

- Determining point-of-view and bias
- Defending a position verbally and in writing

### Writing Workshop :

#### Writing Realistic Fiction

- Creating and Developing Meaningful Stories and Characters
- Drafting and Revising with an Eye Towards Meaning

#### The Art of Argument

- Establishing and Supporting Positions on important topics
- Writing opinion-based essays

#### Writing About Reading

- From Reader's Notebooks to Companion Books
- Planning and Drafting Companion Books of favorite novels
- Writing to Deepen Literary Analysis

## 8th Grade Units of Study

### Reading Workshop:

#### Textual Lineages/Short Texts

- Realistic Fiction
- A lense toward irony
- Students create fan fiction pieces based on Realistic Fiction

#### Dystopian Book Clubs

- Dystopian short stories with the lense of literary analysis
- Students work in literature circles to analyze literary elements

#### Argument Reading

- Students conduct research and read a series of Critical NonFiction texts surrounding opposing-viewpoint issue

#### Poetry

- Analyzing figurative language
- Focus on speaker/audience

### Writing Workshop:

#### Memoir

- Personal Statement Essay
- Focus on self-reflection

#### The Literary Essay

- Analyze craft and theme

#### Position Paper

- Debating positions to develop a complex argument
- Composing cohesive persuasive essays

#### Investigative Journalism

- Capturing events- articles
- Writing to inform