



**G.W. Harby Junior High School
2022-2023 Reading Language Arts Department**

Hello 8th Grade Scholars,

This year, we want all students to know that we have plans to grow both your reading and writing skills. As teachers, we spend much of our time planning for ways to ensure you grow into masters of literacy. We know that all students will grow because we will be utilizing small group instruction to target the needs of each individual student. Below you will find more details about skill work, grading policies, and contact information. Here is to a wonderful year!

With love,
Mrs. C. Garcia

Big Ideas in Reading Courses:

- ★ Volume reading: increase in stamina, fluency, background knowledge, vocabulary, and text complexity.
- ★ Opportunities to read a variety of genres and text structures.
- ★ Frequent opportunities to discuss and write in response to their reading.
- ★ Opportunities to conference with teachers.
- ★ Readers analyze the decisions the author makes about structure, print and graphic features, and word choice to achieve specific purposes such as mood, tone, and author's purpose and message.
- ★ Readers compare and contrast elements of texts.
- ★ Determining the author's purpose through the author's writing choices.

Big Ideas in Writing Courses:

- ★ Opportunities to increase volume and stamina.
- ★ Opportunities for choice in their writing.
- ★ Frequent opportunities to read practice revising and editing.
- ★ Provide systematic practice to strengthen sentence writing and knowledge.
- ★ Writers use rhetorical devices and logical fallacies to support and structure their argument.
- ★ Writers are intentional about the structure they choose and the ideas they develop.
- ★ Writers make craft moves and develop ideas in order to make their writing engaging.
- ★ Writers revise their drafts for clarity, development, organization, style, word, choice, and sentence variety.

Grading Policy:

A 90-99 D 60-69
 B 80-89 F <60
 C 70-79

Assignment Weights:

Daily Grades - 50% Major Assessment - 50%

Year at a Glance	
1st 9 Weeks	<p>Reading Character Motivations and Plot Development</p> <p>Writing Building Good Habits and Purposeful Decision about Character/Plot</p>
2nd 9 Weeks	<p>Reading Text Structure, Genre Influence and Purpose of a Text</p> <p>Writing Informational Writing Structure and Thesis Support</p>
3rd 9 Weeks	<p>Reading Text Structure & Features, Attitude, and Paired Passages</p> <p>Writing Argumentative Text Structures</p>
4th 9 Weeks	<p>Reading Reading Responses and Author's Purpose</p> <p>Writing Testing as a Genre and Choice Project</p>

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Please allow 24 hours for response, or the next business day.

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 8th Grade Reading
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