



Mr. Carlson's Writing Syllabus

SRU Elementary School

August 2018

Welcome to my Classroom!

The purpose of this syllabus is to communicate with all of you on what is happening in room 310. My class will cover the domains of writing using various science and social studies material. The primary focus is not science and social studies, but to use those concepts and resources to become a well-rounded writer. Students will also learn how writing relates to various real-world situations. I look forward to working with your child and am excited to help him/her grow into a stronger writer.

Contact Information

Email:

ccarlson@athensasd.org



With having so many students, email is the best way to stay in touch with me. I will do my best to get right back to you and answer any questions you have. I also plan to utilize the Remind app to inform you of projects, assignments, and assessments.

Website :

<http://srucarlson5.pbworks.com>

Phone Number:

SRU: 570-596-3171

“The secret in education lies in respecting the student.”

- Anonymous



In This Issue

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SS/SCIENCE

Below are the units, in no particular order, of social studies and science concepts students *could be* exposed to in writing this year. It is my hope to get to as many as possible.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- Geography
- Civics and Government/Economics
- History of Events in Pennsylvania and the world.

SCIENCE:

- Technology/Engineering
- Life, Physical, and Earth Science

GRAMMAR

Below are the units, in no particular order, of concepts we will cover this year. Most of these concepts will be taught in a mini-lesson and then used in various writing assignments.

- Types of Sentences
- Parts of Speech (Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Pronouns)
- Comma Usage
- Conjunctions (Correlative, Subordinating, and coordinating)
- Revising/Editing Sentences and Paragraphs
- Homophones, Homographs, and Homonyms

WRITING

Each marking period we will cover and use each of the following types of writing:

- Narrative
- Informational
- Opinion
- Careers (Not all Marking Periods)
- Text-Dependent Analysis Questions (About 1 every couple of weeks)

Students will complete a baseline writing. An exact writing assignment is given at the end of the year for students to see growth.

Students will experience many forms, genres, and types of writing in a workshop style classroom. They will keep a writing portfolio all year to monitor their growth.

Our goal is to become better writers. With time, we will add grammar concepts learned to strengthen our writing abilities.

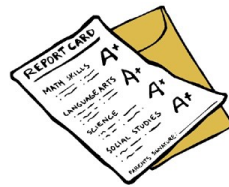
Grading and Points:

Below is the grading point system used each marking period for my class.

Formative Assessments (Grammar & Writing):	200 - 300	43%
Large Writing Assignments/Projects:	100 - 200	43%
Homework/Participation:	75 - 100	14%

Formative Assessments include: quizzes, in class work, computer based projects, and writing assessments on Kahoot, Plickers, Google Drive/Forms, and Google Classroom.

GRADE: $\frac{\text{Total Points Earned}}{\text{Total Points Possible}}$



I utilize Google Classroom regularly in my class. This is an online classroom organization tool where I can post assignments, questions, and assessments while providing grades and feedback instantly.

New to the Classroom

Last year I wrote a mini grant to receive flexible seating for my students. Since I have transformed my room into a more workshop based writing environment, it was important to provide a writing environment that sparked creativity, relaxation, and trust. I believe my classroom set up will help students perform at high writing levels.

Students and parents will receive an addendum to these expectations, guidelines, and procedures if the instructor deems it necessary to make any major modifications during the school year.

Homework

We've made changes to homework for the 2018-2019 school year. It is important that we provide homework that is beneficial in the growth of students as readers and writers. The homework will run on a four to five week rotation.

Weeks 1-3/4: ELA Reading and Skill Work

Week 4/5: TDA Writing Response

If a student is absent from school, their work will be put in a folder and it will be their responsibility to finish it and get help if needed. Based upon the days absent, students will be provided ample time to make up the work.

Homework is used to reinforce skills learned in class, along with practicing responsibility. I encourage families to establish a nightly homework routine. Homework will be checked each morning for completion.