

Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions for Language Arts

WALLINGFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Draft 8/12/02

Enduring Understanding	Essential Questions
Appreciation	
Reading expands understanding of the world, its people and oneself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do people read? • What do people read? • What are the benefits of reading? • How does reading affect your life?
Reading Strategies	
Readers use strategies to construct meaning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do readers prepare for reading? • What are readers thinking about as they read? • What can a reader do when they don't understand? • What impact does fluency have on comprehension? • Why are strategies important?
Responses to Literature	
Authors write with different purposes in mind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does reading influence us? • Why do we need to evaluate what we read?
Readers develop a deeper understanding through reflection of text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do readers reflect and respond? • What connections do readers make? • How might being able to recognize literary features help in appreciating literature?
Vocabulary	
People communicate through words.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the purpose of communication? • Where do words or phrases come from? • How does word choice affect meaning?
Research	
People rely on a variety of resources to obtain information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is information organized? • Why is information organized in different ways?
New information may result in a new idea or a change of stance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we ask questions?

Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions for Language Arts Writing

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Enduring Understanding	Essential Questions
Forms	
Effective communication relies on the usage of proper forms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the audience influence the format of your writing? • How does the purpose influence the format of your writing?
Writing Process	
Writers have a purpose for writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we write? • How is your style of writing influenced by purpose? • What is the importance of sharing?
Writing is a multi-stage process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we approach writing? • How does each step in the process impact your writing?
Writing is a reflective process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we evaluate writing? • How can we use evaluation and reflection to improve our writing?
Grammar & Mechanics	
Written communication and proper grammar mechanics promote fluency of communication.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the purpose of applying grammar and mechanics skills?
Spelling	
Conventional spelling promotes common understanding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is it important to use correct spelling? • How can usage of spelling rules and patterns improve written communication? • What are the benefits of using resources to improve your spelling?
Handwriting	
Legibility improves communication.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role does handwriting play in communication?

Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions for Language Arts Listening, Speaking, Viewing

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Enduring Understanding	Essential Questions
Listening	
Listening skills are critical for learning and communicating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you listen?• What impact does listening have?
Speaking	
People communicate through speaking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you speak effectively?• In what ways are ideas communicated orally?
Viewing	
Visual materials enhance understanding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do the visual materials send messages?• How do visuals impact our thoughts and actions?• How does one analyze and evaluate visual materials?