

MEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

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GRADE 7
ESSENTIAL LEARNINGS

This guide provides an overview of what a **seventh grade** student should know and be able to do in English/Language Arts area by the completion of the school year.

The Medford Public Schools is committed to providing all students with the academic and problem-solving skills essential for personal development, responsible citizenship and life-long learning. The districtwide curriculum goals for all grades preK-12 are as follows:

- To develop high standards and expectations for all students
- To incorporate a balanced core of critical, essential learning that reflects national standards and the state curriculum frameworks for each discipline
- To develop competency in communication, thinking, problem solving research and other critical skills
- To connect learning to relevant situations and experiences outside the school setting
- To measure student learning through multiple types of assessments including the MCAS
- To integrate the curriculum, wherever possible, across subjects and grade levels
- To effectively integrate technology into the curriculum
- To recognize and respect the different needs, interests and talents of all students

In addition to reading and writing daily, students will be able to...

- Demonstrate an understanding of punctuation within language study: identify and use words related as synonyms, antonyms, etc.
- Make use of sentence combining skills
- Demonstrate in their writing – style, complexity, organization, transitions
- Apply appropriate grammar/usage
- Demonstrate a knowledge of all parts of speech
- Develop an understanding of subject/verb agreement, clause, parallel structure
- Review and apply correct capitalization and punctuation
- Edit for punctuation
- Demonstrate consistent conventional spelling strategies
- Apply vocabulary
- Read to extend understanding through synonyms, antonyms, homonyms,
- Construct simile/metaphor, idiom, analogy
- Demonstrate structural analysis: root words, affixes and derivatives
- Write in variety of genre: essay, drama, short story, poetry
- Write to respond to literature
- Demonstrate an understanding of author's craft (e.g., irony, foreshadowing, flashback, point of view, etc.)
- Construct meaning through kinds of writing: narrative, persuasive, poetry, descriptive, etc.
- Extend understanding through similes, metaphors, idiom, imagery, onomatopoeia, alliteration, personification
- Discover knowledge through critical reading
- Revise writing to clarify communication
- Demonstrate oral language by presenting information effectively
- Identify persuasive techniques: band wagon, name calling
- Apply revision for pronoun/antecedent agreement
- Construct sentences with appropriate verb tense
- Inbed clauses and phrases in writing
- Understand and apply knowledge of parallel structure in writing

