**Turner Middle School**

***The Best Middle School in Georgia***

**Course Syllabus**

**Mrs. Zanita S. Hartzog, Teacher**

**Reading Connection**

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**Course Objective:** To provide students with additional instruction and academic engagement that will further develop their reading skills and overall readiness for the current and next phase of academic achievement.

**Curriculum Map:** The Reading curriculum is divided into two major units: Informational and Literary. We will spend each nine-week term focusing on both.

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| **First Nine Weeks****August 7 – October 2** | **Second Nine Weeks****October 3 – December 20** | **Third Nine Weeks****January 7 – March 10** | **Fourth Nine Weeks****March 11 – May 20** |
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| ***August 7 – September 6*** |
| ***Primary Focus:***  ***Informational***  ***(non-fiction) Texts*** |
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 | ***October 3 – October 14******Primary Focus:***  ***Informational***  ***(non-fiction) Texts***  | ***January 7 – February 12******Primary Focus:***  ***Informational***  ***(non-fiction) Texts***  | ***March 11 – April 27******Primary Focus:***  ***Informational***  ***(non-fiction) Texts*** |
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| ***September 7 – October 2*** *1 extended fictional text, and 6 thematically connected short texts* |  |

 | ***October 15 – December 20***

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|  *1 extended literary text, and 6 thematically connected short texts*  |

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| ***February 13 – March 10****1 extended informational text, and 6 thematically connected short texts* |

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|  ***April 28 – May 20*** *1 extended literary text, and 6 thematically connected short texts*  |

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**Course Description:** In an effort to prepare students for the rigor of the Georgia Milestone Assessment System, as well as for academic success at their present and next grade level, students will work diligently towards mastery in:

* Identifying/Citing Appropriate Textual Support
* Evaluating Evidence for its Strengths and/or Weaknesses
* Identifying and Evaluating the Impact of Literary Elements on Informational and Literary Texts
* Identifying and Explaining the Central Idea and/or Theme of Texts
* Analyzing Relationships and/or Patterns Within and Across Multiple Texts
* Identifying Contrasting Viewpoints in Literary and Informational Texts
* Analyzing Text Features and Organizational Structures of Texts

**Course Requirements/Expectations:** Students are required to have a book with them at all times, as the expectation is that students read for a minimum of 20 minutes each day. In order to be dismissed from Reading Connection, students must complete all assignments, give full every day, and most importantly, show academic growth.

**CLASS SUPPLY LIST:**  Success does not happen by chance; we must prepare for it. Students must come to class prepared for success each day. They must have writing utensils, paper, and a neatly-organized binder or folder. Additional materials needed for Reading class are:

* **A Calendar or Agenda.** A calendar or Agenda is a great communication tool that you can use throughout the year to communicate with teachers. It also allows students to keep track of assignment due dates, homework, their grades, their academic growth, and upcoming events, such as field trips and payment deadlines.
* **Headphones or Earbuds**. Students will use headphones or earbuds on our technology days, which are a minimum of three days each week.
* **Hand Sanitizer, Kleenex, and Disinfectant Wipes**. So that we may remain healthy throughout the year, it is important that we practice good hygiene and maintain a clean environment. I will provide all supplies for the first month of school; however, I need your help. If possible, please assist me by providing any one or more of these supplies. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Weighting Scale:** **Grading Scale:**

Summative Assessments 45% **A**  100 - 90

Class Work 35% **B**  89 - 80

Quizzes 15% **C**  79 - 71

Homework 5% **D**  70

 **F**  69 and below\*

***\*Without an excused absence, the highest grade your student may earn for late work is 70%. Additionally, ALL students will have two weeks to turn in missing assignments, or they will receive a failing grade for those missing assignments. Please track your student’s progress in Infinite Campus Parent Portal and contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.***