

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE: Reading

**Teacher:**

Miss Aguilar

**Email:**[jaguilar122@cps.edu](mailto:jaguilar122@cps.edu)

**Class Description:** This year in reading, we will be exploring and analyzing a wide variety of genres in literature, expanding our vocabulary and respond in writing to what we have read. We will engage in rich academic conversations as well as learn about the art of formal argument. We will be applying the Common Core Standards for Language Arts as we put these practices in action. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of genres through whole class, small group and individual learning. Book studies, literature groups and independent reading will be common practices in class.

**Classroom Expectations:** Waters Wildcat ROARRespectful

- We respect others thoughts, ideas and views.
- We respect our class time.
- We respect the work of others.
- We respect the teacher and school staff.

Organized

- We write down all assignments and keep track of our work.
- We turn in our work on time.
- We follow directions.
- We take good notes.

Accountable

- We can share what we learned.
- We set goals.
- We fix our mistakes.
- We own up to our actions.

Responsible

- We complete all assignments.
- We come prepared to work.
- We take care of all reading materials.
- We participate in all activities.

**Materials:** In order to be prepared for class, students will need to bring the needed materials daily.

- |                  |                      |                       |                |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| • myPerspectives | • Reading Notebook   | • Independent Reading | • Sticky Notes |
| • Textbook       | • Writing Utensil(s) | • Colored Pencils     | • Highlighters |

**Textbooks:** Students will be supplied with a myPerspective consumable textbook. The students are expected to bring these books to class on a daily basis. These books are the students' property, therefore students can/ should write on or annotate the books. There is a digital version of the textbook on Pearson Realize for students to access at home; however, assignments must be completed in the textbook or notebook in order to received credit.

**Topics of Study:**★ UNIT 1: RITES OF PASSAGE

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: *What are some milestones on the path to growing up?*

★ UNIT 2: THE HOLOCAUST

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: *How do we remember the past?*

★ UNIT 3: WHAT MATTERS

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: *When is it right to take a stand?*

★ UNIT 4: HUMAN INTELLIGENCE

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: *In what different ways can people be intelligent?*

★ UNIT 5: INVENTION

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: *Are inventions realized through inspiration or perspiration?*



**Areas of Study:** Many of the skills we learn in Language Arts will be applied throughout the year. Some highlights of our learning this year will include:

- Story Elements
- Close Reading
- Making Predictions
- Main Idea
- Morpheme Study
- Literary Devices
- Analyzing Argument
- Making Inferences
- Fact & Opinion
- Author's Purpose
- Analyzing Text
- Objective Summary
- Comparing and Contrasting
- Point of View
- Retelling

**Grading:** Grading is done on a percentage system for the our content areas, as followed:

40% =Summative Assessments

25% =Formative Assessments

25% =Classroom Activities

10% =Homework

**Grading Scale:**

90%-100% =A

89%-80% =B

79%-70% =C

69%-60% =D

59%-Below =F

**Homework:** Students will receive out of class work on a regular basis. This may be homework or projects. Homework will consist of reading, bookwork or other reinforcement type activities.

The following is the Waters School homework policy:

*"The purpose of homework is two-fold: to reinforce what we have learned in class and to teach responsibility. A child who has done his/her homework is prepared in class to hear explanations of what he/she might have had trouble with at home. If an unusual circumstance prevents your child from doing his/her homework (sickness, injury, or other serious problems), we ask that you please send a note with your child in the morning so that he/she can be excused and have an opportunity to make it up."*

**Independent Reading:** All CPS students are expected to read 25 books throughout the school year. Please make sure you are reading daily for 20 or more minutes. Great times to read: in the car, on the bus, when waiting for something, or just curl up with a good book

**Late/Make-Up Work:** Students will be given a week from the due date or upon a return from an excused absence to make up any late/missing assignments or homework. It is up to the student if they are absent, to find out what they missed and to turn the work in. Students will not be given credit for any work submitted after the one-week grace period.

**Communication:** Assignments are posted on a daily basis in the classroom; students are responsible for updating their planners everyday and communicating with teacher for missing assignment. Please review the planner with your child to ensure that assignments are being completed. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to use Aspen to access grades from home over the internet at any time. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please allow 24-48hrs for me to respond, our days are busy and I do not always have the opportunity to check my email before the end of the school day. If there is an emergency, please contact the office and they will relay the message to me.

