

Middle School Developmental Language Arts

Ms. J. Mesa | Room: 108 | Email: jenmesa@coheaedu.com

INTRODUCTION

In this class, we will work together to improve your reading, writing, speaking, and listening abilities. Your active participation, cooperation, and dedication to learning are greatly valued. Every student contributes to our class community, and together we will foster an environment of growth and progress. I am here to support your journey as learners and individuals.

REMIND CODE



1st Period: jmesa1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the Middle School Developmental Language Arts course, we will concentrate on enhancing your foundational language skills, especially in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These activities will help you become more confident and proficient in English communication. Furthermore, throughout the course, we will cover topics such as: vocabulary building, basic sentence structure, simple paragraph writing, reading short passages and answering questions, and listening to spoken English and responding.

CLASSROOM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ATTENDANCE/TARDY POLICY

It is the students' responsibility to be present in their seats when the bell rings. Given that teachers only have a certain amount of time with the students, punctuality is a must. If a student is tardy, he/she must have a written excuse on official school paper from the teacher who detained them or the administration.

Listed below are the classroom consequences for unexcused tardiness:

- 1-2 Tardies: Verbal Warning
- 3 Tardies: Lunch Detention
- 4-5 Tardies: Lunch Detention and Warning of Afterschool Detention
- 6 Tardies: Afterschool Detention
- 7 Tardies: Warning & Referral to school counselor who will arrange a meeting with parents
- 8 or more Tardies:

Referral to administration and meeting with parent/guardian. Appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken to prevent future tardies. Referrals may appear on a student's permanent record

STUDENT EVALUATION

Grades are based on the Miami-Dade County Grading Scale.

GRADING SCALE:

90 - 100 = A 3.5 - 4.00 average

80 - 89 = B 2.5 - 3.49 average

70 - 79 = C 1.5 - 2.49 average

60 - 69 = D 1.0 - 1.49 average

Below 59 = F 0.9 - 0.00 average

Students are evaluated based on the criteria below:

Major Assessments/Tests: 30%

Minor Assessments/Quizzes: 25%

Projects/Essays/Presentations: 20%

Classwork: 20%

Homework: 5%

ASSIGNMENTS/MAKE UP POLICY

Students have enough time in class to finish assignments. Late work will not be accepted unless the teacher approves it. Students must manage their time, meet deadlines, and tell the teacher about any problems before the due date. If an assignment is not turned in on time, it will receive a grade of "Z."

If the student is unable to complete an assignment due to an absence, it is the student's responsibility to collect and complete any assignment that was missed. A grade will ONLY be received if the absence is EXCUSED. The student will have as many days as they were out to complete the assignment (example: if the student was absent for two days, they have two days, including the day they returned, to complete missing assignments). This does not excuse the student from assignments received when returned.

In the case of technical difficulties, whether it is internet problems or files not uploading, it is up to the student to show some sort of proof of effort that they are trying to upload the assignment onto the designated platform, such as an error message pop-up and time stamp the problem. It will be up to the teacher whether late work will be accepted or not, but having proof is extremely important.

HOME LEARNING POLICY

Home learning assignments consist of IXL lessons on a weekly basis and vocabulary activities (vocabulary.com practice/spelling, vocabulary choice boards, etc.). Moreover, home learning is driven by the instruction that takes place in the classroom.

Parent communication will be made for missing assignments.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is completely **UNACCEPTABLE**. The consequence for a student caught in the act of plagiarism is a letter grade of F. Plagiarism is not taken lightly, so keep in mind that administration will be notified as well as the parents. Cheating is a derivative of plagiarism; the same consequences will apply to anything of that nature. Student work that is submitted to the teacher must reflect independence and originality; not copied from the internet, another student, or any other source.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE TEACHER

Please allow up to 24 hours for email or Remind responses. Email is the best way to reach me, not during class, which is for learning. In your email, include your full name, student ID, class period, and your question or concern.

Furthermore, allow between 24-48 hours for updates in gradebook. Google classroom is NOT the gradebook. Any "grade", "percentage", or "note" on google classroom is intended for feedback purposes only.

BEHAVIOR

NEW FLORIDA LAW ALERT:

As of July 1, 2025, cellphone use is prohibited for K-8 students during the entire school day. Students may not use or display electronic devices during the instructional day. That means no phones, AirPods, smart watches, etc. from 7:45am – 2:30pm

HERO-PBS:

Parents will receive an email as well as a push notification on the HERO app every time a positive/negative behavior is input for their child. Both parents and students will have access to their own HERO portal where they can monitor their point balances, upcoming disciplinary actions, and view their HERO behavior history.

REQUIRED STUDENT SUPPLIES

- Headphones (wired only/1)
- Pencils (+5)
- Mechanical Pencils (+5)
- Lined loose leaf paper
- Eraser (1)
- Pens (red, blue, and black)
- Highlighters (4 different colors)
- Colored pencils/markers
- Plastic Folder or Binder (1)
- Sticky Notes (1 pack)
- Index Cards (1 pack)

**PLEASE SIGN AND SUBMIT THE
STUDENT/PARENT CONTRACT ON THE NEXT
PAGE.**

STUDENTS/PARENT CONTRACT

PRINT, SIGN, AND PHYSICALLY RETURN ONLY THIS PORTION OF THE SYLLABUS TO THE TEACHER.

STUDENT SECTION:

I have received, read and understood the Student Contract for Ms. J. Mesa's Reading class. I have thoroughly reviewed the rules and procedures with my parent(s)/guardian(s). I understand and agree to all terms.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Signature	Print Name	ID	Date	Period

PARENT SECTION:

I (we) have received, read and understood the Student/Parent Contract for Ms. J. Mesa's Reading class. I (we), the parent(s)/guardian(s) have gone over this contract with my (our) child. I (we) understand and agree on all the terms.

_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Print Name	Date

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Phone Number(s): _____

E-mail Address: _____

CONTRATO PADRES/ESTUDIANTES

IMPRIMIR/ FIRMAR/ Y FISICAMENTE DEVOLVER SOLO ESTA PARTE DEL PLAN DE ESTUDIO AL MAESTRO(A).

SECCIÓN DEL ESTUDIANTE:

He recibido, leído y entendido el contrato de estudiante para la clase de Lectura de Ms. J. Mesa. He revisado minuciosamente las reglas y procedimientos con mis padres/guardianes. Entiendo y estoy de acuerdo con todo los términos.

Firma del estudiante

Nombre (letra de molde)

ID

Fecha

Periodo

SECCIÓN DEL PADRE:

He /hemos recibido, leído y entendido el contrato de padres y estudiantes para la clase de Lectura de Ms. J. Mesa. Yo/nosotros, el padre (los padres)/ el guardián (los guardianes) he/hemos revisado este contrato con mi /nuestro hijo. Entiendo /entendemos, y estoy/estamos de acuerdo con todo los términos.

Firma del padre o guardián

Nombre (letra de molde)

Fecha

Información de Contacto del Padre o Guardián:

Número(s) de Teléfono: _____

Correo electrónico: _____