

**Sixth Grade Journeys Syllabus
(Language Arts Exploratory Class)
2007-2008**

Miss Stacey Guyse

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"...And [Jesus] stood up to read..." Luke 4:14-21

Class Goals:

1. Increase enjoyment of reading and writing
2. Improve critical thinking skills
3. Improve written and verbal communication

Class Content:

This class will explore the creative side of literature. We will use the red Reader's Handbook as a resource for this class. We will read Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse. We will look at the reading and writing process, peer-editing, different types of writing styles, research, and poetry. Each student will even write his or her own memoir.

Management Plan:

The classroom rules are posted in the room. The following is the discipline plan I will use. Be responsible for your behavior. Positive recognition will include praise, positive notes, and special privileges.

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning
2. Conference after class or after school
3. Communication to parents
4. Detention
5. Referral to principal

I have the right to send the student to the principal immediately for any action or behavior that is considered severe.

Grading:

Grading for Journeys is based on whole points. Each assignment's points are given according to its difficulty, emphasis and length. For example, if a quiz is worth 40 points, your grade might be noted as earning 35 out of 40 total possible points.

1. Major Tests / Projects – 50-200 points
2. Quizzes – 10-100 points
3. Homework / Daily Grades – 5-100 points

Make Up Work:

Make-up work is your responsibility to complete. You should see me beforehand if you know you will be absent to receive your assignments.

1. You will have one day for every day you're out to make-up your work.
2. If you miss a test you need to let me know a time to re-schedule the test.
3. Late work will be accepted one day after the assignment is due for half-credit.

Help Sessions:

If extra help is needed, please give me 24 hours of notice to schedule a meeting. My help session will be Friday mornings from 7:45 a.m. – 8:05 a.m.

Honor Code:

As you sign this syllabus, you will also be agreeing to follow the GACS Honor Code in Journeys.

“In order to maintain honor in our relationships, we all agree to do what is right, to speak the truth, and to strive for integrity in all that we do. Therefore, we will not be involved in lying, cheating, or stealing. If we do vary from this path of honor, we will accept the corrections from others and the established consequences of this school. Honor is a goal that we seek to attain.”

I look forward to this nine weeks in Journeys; we will strive to make it excellent!

Sincerely,

Stacey Guyse
English 7, Journeys Teacher

Outline of course:

Week	Task
1	Introduction to class, elements of poetry, poetry terms, poetry comprehension, Reader’s Theatre with Poetry
2	Poetry Web Quest, Introduce Poetry Island (get into groups, assign poets, begin research)
3	Poetry Island (research, rehearse, and begin competition in Mood, Drama, and Artistic Interpretation)
4	Complete Poetry Island and begin <i>Out of the Dust</i> (introduce book with background, free verse poetry, short story elements) Discuss and begin keeping a daily journal.
5	Read <i>Out of the Dust</i> and discuss poetry and short story elements of the novel. Perform a dramatic reading of one of the chapters.
6	<i>Out of the Dust</i> - quiz, research/outline/note cards from novel for MULTI-GENRE REPORT
7	<i>Out of the Dust</i> - MULTI -GENRE REPORT
8	Memoirs- look at examples, discuss and begin assignment
9	Memoirs- complete and present memoirs

