



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

**Ms. Courtney**

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**May 14, 2012**

(updated 5/14/12)

## Important Dates:

May 15	Athletics Banquet 5:30
May 18, 19	Seussical, The Musical (6pm Activity Center)
May 18	Yearbook distribution after school
May 21-24	Yearbook sales before/after school (while quantities last)
May 23	8 <sup>th</sup> grade dinner
May 24	MS Movie Day
May 24	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Awards assembly 1:30pm
May 25	Last day of school (1/2 day- release at 12pm)

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Focus:** Shakespeare; Final book assembly

**Activities:** Coordinating and organizing final book

**Homework** (please note that students may occasionally have to finish classwork as homework):

Reading Log: 5/18

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

**Focus:** Presentations, Diary of Anne Frank

**Activities:** Project presentation; reading of section 3; creation of story boards

**Homework** (please note that students may occasionally have to finish classwork as homework):

Reading Log: 5/18

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Independent Book Project

**Objective:** Students will read a novel of their choice and then watch its movie adaptation. From there, students will do the following:

- Write a 5-6-page compare/contrast paper and critical analysis of the book/movie
- Create a visual element to present to the class which depicts three similarities and three differences between the two pieces

**Paper Due:** Wednesday, May 9

**Project Due:** Monday, May 14

### Tasks:

1. Find an appropriate book (reading level and content) that has also been adapted for the screen. Please note that you must do a book that has been made into a movie; not a novel serialization of a movie. You must notify your teacher of your selection no later than **Tuesday, April 9**. (*Teacher has final approval; please do not begin on your project before you have this approval.*)
2. Read the entire book, and then see the movie. When reading the book, pay special attention to how the characters are described (appearance: height, weight, hair color, eye color, etc.), how the plot develops, the setting, and key scenes. When watching the movie, watch elements that follow the book and those that don't. Think about why moviemakers change parts of the book, condense/expand/eliminate characters, rewrite the ending, etc. (This will be part of the paper.) You may need to watch the movie more than once.
3. Write the paper. Structure it as follows:
  - Introductory paragraph that gives a summary of the book (who, what, when, where, why). Include what the main conflict of the book is as well as the main characters. At the end of the paragraph, mention broadly the similarities and differences (if there is anything of particular interest, such as the movie had a completely different ending, mention that.)
  - Body paragraphs (number of paragraphs will vary from person to person, depending on level of detail provided). First, mention three similarities of both. Be sure to include specific examples and details. If there are direct quotes from the book in the movie, mention that. After that, include the three differences. Describe each difference individually, citing what happened in the book first, and then the movie.
  - Analysis (can be a separate heading). Include 1-2 paragraphs about why you think the author/movie maker made the changes he/she did. Was it because of the length of story, unnecessary elements, or did the movie-maker need to create a more "Hollywood-friendly" movie? Include an opinion about which you liked better: book or movie.
4. Create the visual element to present to the class. The element needs to contain the three similarities/differences, and you will need to include your opinion about which you liked better.