

## Language Arts 500

Language Arts 500 continues to build on the sequential development and integration of language arts skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It most specifically focuses on deepening and furthering students' understanding in the following ways:

- **Reading** develops students' comprehension skills. Special attention is placed on reading non-fiction texts. Students identify text features and explain how graphic elements lead to comprehension. Students read procedural texts and learn more about media literacy. Students continue to learn how to read for meaning across many genres such as historical fiction, short stories, and poetry. In all genres, students continue to build comprehension strategies including; the identification of main ideas, supporting details, sequence, and facts and opinions. Students continue to build more advanced reading skills, such as making inferences and drawing conclusions. Students continue to work with words by looking closely at academic language. Students learn how dialects in text contribute to the overall meaning of the text. Students also learn how to analyze and memorize primary sources.
- **Writing** builds on students' understanding of paragraphing. Following the writing process from brainstorming to final project, students write for a variety of purposes and audiences. Student utilize technology tools such as spell check and multimedia elements to polish and publish writing. Students continue to build grammar skills in support of clear communication. Students work with words by identifying homonyms, synonyms, and antonyms. Students are guided through creating an essential question, planning, organizing, writing, and revising an informational report.
- **Speaking** skills are built upon in Language Arts 500. Students memorize and recite the powerful Gettysburg Address. Students also learn what good communication is and how to practice this in all areas of their lives. Additionally, students prepare for a classroom discussion. Students participate in, and summarize claims made within the discussion. Students also prepare and give an oral presentation.

### Curriculum Contents

#### Reading Comprehension Skills

- Asking Questions of a Text
- Comparing and Contrasting
- Cause and Effect
- Context Clues
- Determining Author's Purpose
- Determining Reading Rates
- Identifying Academic Language
- Identifying Features of Nonfiction
- Identifying Historical Context in Written Works
- Identifying Facts and Opinions
- Identifying Main Ideas and Supporting Details
- Identifying Points of View
- Finding Implied Meanings
- Media Literacy
- Making Inferences
- Nonfiction Text Features and Graphic Elements
- Preparing for a Discussion
- Reading Poetry
- Reading Fluency
- Reading Procedural Texts
- Reading Short Stories
- Reading for Sequence

Writing

- Creating an Essential Question
- Middle and Modern English
- Writing Descriptive Narratives
- Writing Reports
- Writing Dialogue
- Writing a Fable
- Writing with Facts and Opinions
- Writing Poetry
- Writing a Report
- Writing Short Stories
- Taking Study Notes
- Using Spell Check
- Writing a Summary
- Writing Better Sentences
- Word Study

Grammar and Usage

- Identifying Parts of Speech
- Using and Punctuating Dialogue
- Kinds of Sentences
- Formal and Informal Language Use
- Pronunciation
- Punctuation
- Sentence Structure
- Types of Conjunctions

Speaking and Listening

- Identifying Components of Good Communication
- Memorizing and Reciting the Gettysburg Address
- Participating in and Summarizing Claims in a Discussion
- Procedural Presentation
- Multimedia Presentation of an Author
- Using Appropriate Words

Unit 1: Language Skills		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Course Overview	10. Quiz: Dialogue, Vocabulary, and Academic Language
	2. The Author's Message	11. Using Spell Check
	3. Project: Finding the Topic	12. Project: Spelling Story*
	4. Vowel Diphthong Design	13. Short Story: Joe's Dilemma Part 2
	5. Spelling: Vowel Changes	14. Quiz: Reading and Writing Efficiently
	6. Quiz: The Author's Message and Vowel Diphthong Design	15. Unit Review
	7. Short Story: Joe's Dilemma Part 1	16. Special Project*
	8. Vocabulary Study	17. Test
	9. Academic Language	18. Alternate Test*
		19. Glossary and Credits

Unit 2: Working With Information		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Reading Nonfiction	11. Project: Procedural Presentation*
	2. Compound Words and Hyphens	12. Parts of Speech
	3. Memorizing and Reciting the Gettysburg Address	13. Contractions
	4. Quiz: Reading and Hyphens	14. Quiz: Contractions and Procedural Texts
	5. Main Ideas and Supporting Details	15. Unit Review
	6. Project: Outline	16. Special Project*
	7. Good Communication	17. Test
	8. Quiz: Main Ideas, Details, and Good Communication	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Text Features and Graphic Elements	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Reading Procedural Texts	

Unit 3: The Story of Our Language		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Comprehension	13. Project: Multimedia Presentation on an Author*
	2. Word and Sentence Study	14. Homonyms, Idioms, and Abbreviations
	3. Quiz: Comprehension and Word Study	15. Using Nouns and Adjectives
	4. Elements of the English Language	16. Project: Descriptive Narrative
	5. Prefixes and Suffixes	17. Initials and Acronyms
	6. Project: Book Report - Nonfiction	18. Quiz: Language Confusion and History of Language
	7. Phrases, Adjectives, and Adverbs	19. Unit Review
	8. Punctuation in a Series	20. Special Project*
	9. Quiz: Parts of Speech, Context Clues, and Punctuation	21. Test
	10. Writing a Short Story	22. Alternate Test*
11. Language Confusion: Anglo-Saxon	23. Glossary and Credits	
12. Middle and Modern English		

Unit 4: Effective Communication		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Reading Skills	13. Project: Taking Notes
	2. Sentence Patterns and Appropriate Words	14. Written Report - Preparing an Outline
	3. Quiz: Main Ideas and Appropriate Words	15. Creating an Essential Question
	4. Sensible Sentences	16. Project: Drafting Research Questions
	5. Project: Writing Descriptive Setting Paragraphs	17. Project: Outline
	6. Types of Conjunctions	18. Project: Drafting Your Report
	7. Project: Participating in and Summarizing Claims in a Discussion	19. Media Literacy
	8. Reading Skills and Robin Hood	20. Project: Advertisements and Persuasion
	9. Quiz: Reading, Writing, and Discussion Skills	21. Quiz: The Written Report
	10. Project: Writing an Opinion Piece	22. Unit Review
11. Written Report - Selecting a Topic and Gathering Information	23. Special Project*	
12. Research and Gathering Sources	24. Test	
	25. Alternate Test*	
	26. Glossary and Credits	

Unit 5: Reading and Writing Stories			
Assignments			
Language Arts 500	1. Reading for Meaning	13. Quiz: Writing Sentences, Dialogue, and Cursive	
	2. Writing About a Text	14. Story Writing	
	3. Project: Writing a Summary	15. Using Commas to Introduce	
	4. Judging the Value of a Story	16. Project: Short Story	
	5. Project: Book Report - Historical Fiction	17. Project: Story Comparison	
	6. Quiz: Reading and Summarizing a Story	18. Quiz: Story Writing and Punctuation	
	7. Mastering Dialogue	19. Unit Review	
	8. Capitalization Rules	20. Special Project*	
	9. Project: Making Conversation	21. Test	
	10. Project: Seed Ideas*	22. Alternate Test*	
	11. Writing Better Sentences	23. Glossary and Credits	
	12. Cursive Writing		
	Unit 6: Poetry		
	Assignments		
	Language Arts 500	1. Reading Story Poems	13. Poetic Ideas and Devices
		2. Dialects in Text	14. Poetic Forms
		3. Enjoying Poetry	15. Project: Pen Pictures and Couplets
		4. Identifying Historical Context in Written Works	16. Project: Free Verse Poem
		5. Project: Rhythm	17. Project: Poetry Book*
		6. Quiz: Poetry and Historical Context	18. Quiz: Poetic Forms and Devices
		7. Poetry	19. Unit Review
		8. Reading Humorous Poems	20. Special Project*
		9. Playing With Words	21. Test
10. Project: Book Report - Poetry		22. Alternate Test*	
11. Quiz: Humorous Poetry		23. Glossary and Credits	
12. Reading Inspirational Poems			
Unit 7: Reading Comprehension			
Assignments			
Language Arts 500		1. Cause and Effect	13. Judgments, Inferences, Facts, Opinions, and Mood
		2. Sequence in Gulliver's Travels	14. Vocabulary Practice
		3. Analyzing a Plot: Foreshadowing	15. Preparing for a Discussion
		4. Project: Personal Reaction to Lilliput	16. Asking Questions of a Text
		5. Quiz: Sequence, Foreshadowing, and Personal Reactions in Stories	17. Quiz: Judgments, Vocabulary, and Discussions
		6. Third Person Point of View	18. Identifying Adjectives
		7. Reviewing Nouns	19. Project: Adjectives
		8. Singular and Plural Nouns	20. Adjective Placement
		9. Possessive Nouns; Uses of Nouns	21. Quiz: Adjectives
	10. Pronouns	22. Unit Review	
	11. Indefinite Pronouns	23. Special Project*	
	12. Quiz: Third Person Point of View, Nouns, and Pronouns	24. Test	
		25. Alternate Test*	
		26. Glossary and Credits	

Unit 8: Working With Words		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Main Verbs	11. Aesop and Fables
	2. Verb Forms	12. Project: Fable Rewrite
	3. Subject/Verb Agreement and Contractions	13. Types of Sentences
	4. Participles	14. Project: Fables
	5. Quiz: Verbs	15. Quiz: Fables
	6. Modifying with Adverbs	16. Unit Review
	7. Making Adverbs from Adjectives	17. Special Project*
	8. Showing Comparisons with Adverbs	18. Test
	9. Project: Preparing and Giving an Oral Presentation	19. Alternate Test*
	10. Quiz: Adverbs and Adjectives	20. Glossary and Credits

Unit 9: Reading and Study Skills		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Improving Reading Fluency and Study Skills	11. Writing a Report with Facts and Opinions
	2. Short Story: Richard Whittington and his Cat	12. Project: Preparing a Fact and Opinion Report
	3. Project: Summary of Richard Whittington	13. Project: Fact and Opinion Report
	4. Quiz: Reading and Study Skills	14. Quiz: Literary Forms, Fact and Opinion
	5. Maps, Charts, and Diagrams	15. Unit Review
	6. Outlines	16. Special Project*
	7. Project: Book Report - Biography	17. Test
	8. Quiz: Maps, Charts, Diagrams, and Outlines	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Reviewing Literary Forms	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Analyzing Primary Sources: Persuasion	