

The 6 Traits of Writing continued—

Conventions—students will be able to:

- Spell correctly
- Punctuate correctly (sentence endings, commas in a friendly letter's greeting and closing, commas in a series, abbreviations, quotations in dialogue and apostrophes)
- Apply rules of capitalization (e.g., sentence beginnings, titles, abbreviations, proper nouns, direct quotations)
- Apply standard grammar and usage (e.g., subject-verb agreement, simple and compound sentences, appropriate verb tense, plurals, prepositions)

Word Choice—students will be able to use a variety of accurate, specific words that are appropriate to audience and purpose.

Sentence Fluency—students will be able to organize paragraphs with sentence structures that are varied, enhance meaning and make oral reading easy and enjoyable.

Voice—students will be able to choose a voice that is sincere, expressive, engaging and appropriate to the audience.



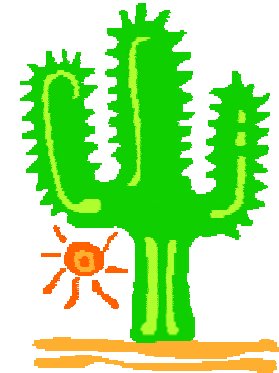
For complete information on the Arizona Academic Standards go to www.ade.az.gov/standards/contentstandards.asp

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*Parents' Guide to
Grade Level
Learning Targets
for Reading and
Writing*

Grades 6-8

Osborn School District Grade 6-8 Targets

Reading

Decoding Strategies—students will be able to:

- Identify the effects of prefixes and suffixes on root words
- Confirm meaning of figurative, idiomatic and technical language using context clues

Comprehension—students will be able to:

- Identify the main ideas; critical and supporting details; and the author's purpose, feelings and point of view of the text
- Distinguish fact from opinion
- Compare and contrast the text (e.g., characters, genre, cultural differences, fact, fiction)
- Determine cause-and-effect relationships
- Summarize the text in chronological, sequential or logical order

Analysis—students will be able to:

- Describe the setting and its relationship to the selection
- Describe the motivation of major and minor characters in a selection
- Draw defensible conclusions, based on stated and implied information according to style, meaning and mood

- Differentiate fiction, nonfiction or poetry based on their attributes
- Identify the theme

Fact/Opinion—students will be able to:

- Describe the author's use of strategies such as bandwagon, peer pressure and "loaded" words to convince or persuade
- Identify the author's bias

Consumer Information/Directions—students will be able to:

- Evaluate an instructional manual such as assembly directions or user's guide for clarity and completeness
- Incorporate information from illustrations in the manual
- Locate support help in the manual
- Identify the sequence of activities needed to carry out a procedure
- Identify information that is either extraneous or missing (e.g., directions, tools)

Writing

Students will use the writing process to generate topics, draft, revise, edit to complete a—

- Personal experience narrative
- Story
- Report that conveys a point of view and develops a topic with appropriate facts, details, examples and descriptions from a variety of cited sources
- Formal communications, such as personal or business letters, messages, directions and applications, in an appropriate format and for a specific audience and purpose

- Literary response which supports their ideas with references to the text, other works or experiences
- Expository essay that contains effective introductory and summary statements and fully develops the ideas with details, facts, examples and descriptions
- Summary that presents information clearly and accurately, contains the most significant details and preserves the position of the author

Students will demonstrate research skills using reference materials such as a dictionary, encyclopedia and thesaurus to effectively complete a variety of writing tasks.

The 6 Traits of Writing

Ideas and Content—students will be able to:

- Use prewriting activities to create a topic that is focused
- Write with a clear purpose aligned to the audience

Organization—students will be able to:

- Write an inviting introduction
- Link ideas with thoughtful transitions
- Sequence events in logical and effective ways—identifiable beginning, middle and end

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