

PETERS TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: READING 7

Course Information	Teacher Information
<p><u>Course Length:</u> Full year</p> <p><u>Class Location:</u> B5</p>	<p><u>Name:</u> Mrs. Kern</p> <p><u>Phone:</u> 724.941.6250 ext. 4005</p> <p><u>Email:</u> kernt@pt-sd.org</p>

Course Overview and Essential Skills

This novel-based course meets every day all year and provides opportunities for students to develop greater competence and confidence in reading, study skills, and critical-thinking abilities. Novels read in this course include: *Joey Pigza Loses Control*; *Freak the Mighty*; *Pictures of Hollis Woods*; and *The City of Ember*. Students who participate in this class will be actively involved in creating plot charts, making inferences, and defining and applying characterization. Students will expand vocabulary skills and apply literary elements in this novel based course.

Course Textbook, Supplemental Resources and Required Materials

- *Joey Pigza Loses Control* by Jack Gantos ISBN # 978-0-312-66101-4
- Excerpts from *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* by Jack Gantos ISBN # 978-0-374-33664-6
- *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick ISBN # 978-0-439-286-0
- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff ISBN #978-0-440-41578-7
- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau ISBN # 978-0-375-82274-2
- Selection of Short Stories not limited to *Charles* by Shirley Jackson and *Seventh Grade* by Gary Soto
- Red binders with front and inside pocket and a pencil

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Course Activities/Resources	Timeframe
<u>Short Stories</u>	Comprehension questions Vocabulary Quizzes	2 weeks
<u>Joey Pigza Loses Control</u>	Elements of plot Characterization Application of reading skills and reading strategies Journals Comprehension questions Vocabulary and figurative language Quizzes, tests, homework, classwork	7-9 weeks
<u>Freak the Mighty</u>	Elements of plot Characterization Theme Summarizing Application of reading skills and reading strategies Notebook Comprehension questions Vocabulary and figurative language	7-9 weeks

	Comparative analysis involving multimedia Quizzes, tests, homework, classwork	
<u>Pictures of Hollis Words</u>	Elements of plot Characterization Imagery Symbolism Application of reading skills and reading strategies Comprehension questions Vocabulary and figurative language Scrapbook Comparative analysis involving multimedia Quizzes, tests, homework, classwork	7-9 weeks
<u>The City of Ember</u>	Elements of plot Characterization Dual point of view Science fiction Application of reading skills and reading strategies Comprehension questions Analysis of science fiction involving multi-media Vocabulary and figurative language Quizzes, tests, homework, classwork	7-9 weeks

**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*

Teacher Grading Policy:

- Grades for the course will be calculated by total points.
- Late work will automatically receive zero credit.
- Long term assignments or projects may be turned in one day late for half credit before grading.
- Cheating and plagiarism are disciplinary infractions and result in a loss of credit as explained in the student handbook.

Classroom Procedures and Expectations:

- Be on time: You are expected to be in your seat and completing the focus activities when the bell rings.
- Be prepared: You need to bring all of your materials with you to class every day.
- Be respectful: Do not touch anything unless it belongs to you. Show respect for all classmates and school personnel (including substitutes).
- Be responsible: Students are responsible for making all arrangements with the teacher regarding absences and missed assessments. Students are expected to self-advocate.
- All school rules apply in class and will be enforced. This includes the policy for late work due to student absences.

“Other”:

Possible ways in which students can receive extra help are listed below:

- Students should make arrangements with teacher to receive extra help or make up work.
- Hot Shots Program: Students can sign up for this after-school program held in the PTMS library from 3:00 – 4:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students must sign up through guidance.