Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
The English/Language Arts 6 course is organized around four thematic units: The Search for Identity; Passages and Challenges; Acceptance; and Exploration and Reflection. As the students examine the short stories and novels in the units, they analyze how authors develop theme, character, and setting. By reading and discussing a variety of poems, students learn to identify the significant features of poetry and figurative language. As they read and analyze a variety of texts, students learn to prioritize, organize, and retain important concepts and information.

The students write to respond to literature, to explain, to narrate, to describe, and to persuade. As they write, the students practice using and correctly punctuating simple, compound, and complex sentences. When they revise and edit their work, the students learn to pay particular attention to pronoun-antecedent agreement, subject-verb agreement, and the correct use of adverbial phrases. Throughout the year, the students continuously revise and edit their writing as they build their writing portfolios. All the units integrate skills in speaking and listening with reading and writing. At this grade level, students take a Reading Test for the English Standards of Learning.

**PREREQUISITE**
Fifth-grade language arts

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**
Enrollment for the next English course should be based on student performance, teacher recommendation, and parent input. The courses available are Core English, Grade 7 and Advanced English, Grade 7.

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**
*Elements of Literature, 6*

**READING SELECTIONS**
- Amos Fortune, Elizabeth Yates
- And Now Miguel, Joseph Krumgold
- Banner in the Sky, James Ramsey Ullman
- Becoming Naomi Leon, Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Bud, Not Buddy, Christopher Curtis
- The Big Wave, Pearl Buck
- Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson
- Call It Courage, Armstrong Sperry
- Carlotta, Scott O’Dell
- The Cay, Theodore Taylor
- The Endless Steppe, Esther Hautzig
- Esperanza Rising, Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Everything on a Waffle, Polly Horvath
- The Eyes of the Amaryllis, Natalie Babbitt
- A Gathering of Days, Joan W. Blos
- The Great Gilly Hopkins, Katherine A. Paterson
- Hatchet, Gary Paulsen
- The Hay Meadow, Gary Paulsen
- The Heart of a Chief, Joseph Bruchac
- Homesick, My Own Story, Jean Fritz
- House of Sixty Fathers, Meindert Dejong
- Hoot, Carl Hiassen
- Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O’Dell
- Julie of the Wolves, Jean Craighead George
- My Brother Sam Is Dead, James Lincoln Collier
- My Side of the Mountain, Jean Craighead George
- Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
- Old Yeller, Fred Gipson
- One-Eyed Cat, Paula Fox
- Onion John, Joseph Krumgold
- Pinballs, Betsy Cromer Byars
- River, Gary Paulsen
- The Sacrifice, Kathleen Benner Duble
- Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, Eleanor Coerr
- Shakespeare’s Secret, Elise Broach
- Sign of the Beaver, Elizabeth George Speare
- Snow Treasure, Marie McSwigan
- Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time, Lisa Yee
- Summer of the Swans, Betsy Byars
- The Talking Earth, Jean Craighead George
- Tuck Everlasting, Natalie Babbitt
- Wood Song, Gary Paulsen
COMMUNICATION: SPEAKING, LISTENING, AND MEDIA LITERACY
ELA 6.1 The student will participate in and contribute to small-group activities. (SOL 6.1)
ELA 6.2 The student will present, listen critically, and express opinions in oral presentations individually and in collaboration with peers. (SOL 6.2)
ELA 6.3 The student will understand the elements of media literacy. (SOL 6.3)

READING AND RESPONDING TO LITERATURE
ELA 6.4 The student will read and learn the meanings of unfamiliar words and phrases within authentic texts. (SOL 6.4)
ELA 6.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction, and poetry presented in a variety of media and formats. (SOL 6.5)
ELA 6.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of nonfiction texts presented in a variety of media and formats. (SOL 6.6)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION
ELA 6.7 The student will write narration, description, exposition, and persuasion. (SOL 6.7)
ELA 6.8 The student will edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and paragraphing. (SOL 6.8)

RESEARCH
ELA 6.9 The student will find, evaluate, and select appropriate resources for a research product. (SOL 6.9)
Mission Statement

The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.

Dr. James G. Merrill, Superintendent

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
2512 George Mason Drive • P. O. Box 6038 • Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456-0038

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and supporting regulation (Policies 2-33, 4-4, 5-7, and 6-7 and Regulation 5-44.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, counseling services, physical education and athletics, vocational education, instructional materials, and extracurricular activities.

The following staff are designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:
Director of Guidance Services at (757) 263-1980 or to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources at (757) 263-1133.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone (757) 263-1070 or (757) 263-1429; fax (757) 263-1424; TDD (757) 263-1240

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