

Westbrook School Department
Course Blueprint

Content Area / Grade Level <i>Reading/ Grade Four</i>	
Course Title <i>Reading Units of Study/Reading Workshop</i>	
Course Description <i>Literacy instruction designed to prepare students for any reading task they will face and to turn them into life-long, confident readers who display fluency and independence.</i>	
Westbrook K-12 Learning Standards <i>*Reading comprehension and interpretation</i> <i>*Foundations of reading and language</i> <i>*Speaking and listening for discussion</i> <i>*Speaking and listening for presentation</i>	Guiding Principles / Vision of the Graduate <i>Clear and Effective Communicators</i> <i>Self-Directed and Life-long Learners</i> <i>Creative and Practical Problem Solvers</i> <i>Responsible and Involved Citizens</i> <i>Integrative and Informed Thinkers</i>
Expected Outcomes - Expectations for students upon completion of the course. <i>*Develops and practices a system of previewing books to garner critical information helpful to comprehension</i> <i>*Ability to predict what might happen next based on the characters attributes and knowledge of books within the genre.</i> <i>*Understands different types of nonfiction text need to be read differently.</i> <i>*Understands in more complicated stories sometimes the author wants the reader to be confused, therefore the student has developed strategies for writing down questions or wonders as they are reading.</i> <i>*Aware stories are not always told in sequence and/ or may contain large time gaps for specific reasons. Notices how the author changes settings and can explain why the setting changed. Wonders if the story is not told in the first person, whose perspective of events are we experiencing.</i> <i>*Uses story elements such as diagrams, tables, graphs, maps, headings, subheadings, glossary and index to help build understanding of the topic.</i> <i>*Reads texts using the appropriate fluency and prosody</i> <i>*Uses what they know about prefixes, suffixes and root words to grasp the meaning of new terms. Automatically considers the context of the story to understand trickier words or phrases. Includes precise terms as well as literary terms such as genre and setting in discussion points.</i> <i>*Orchestrates word solving strategies to figure out trickier words in text. Understand new topics will introduce new concepts, and has a way to keep track of new terms and will use them in discussions and writing.</i> <i>*Offers insights as to how the events, characters and setting of the story interact and develop the overarching theme of the story.</i> <i>*Uses the structure of the text to understand the main idea of the text. Pauses during reading to summarize for themselves and add supporting details, careful to keep their opinions separate from the facts being learned.</i> <i>*Develops ideas about characters' perspectives, motives and changes. Correlates these ideas</i>	

with both big and small events in the story. Wonders about the bigger theme of the story as it is revealed.

**Merges information on a topic from several texts, able to sort information into categories and subcategories for discussion.*

**Compares and contrasts events, characters and other story features within the text. Makes inferences about the story and supports ideas with scenes from the story. In Non-fiction, compares and contrasts how a topic is discussed over several texts, taking note of different perspectives and techniques used by authors.*

**Wonders about how the parts of the story relates to the whole world. Notice when the author elaborates or draws attention to certain parts, and developed a way to bring this “craft” into their own writing.*

**Notices how the author delivers the information in the text and can explain why the author may have chosen a text box or diagram.*

**Allows stories to spark ideas about other books. Wonders about how the author wants them to think or feel and may be critical of those decisions.*

**Recognizes when a story is told in first or second person. Develops own ideas about the topic, by asking critical questions and thinking beyond the text.*

Core Units of Study - Each course has 4 - 6 Core Units of Study which are required and in which all targeted learning standards are embedded.

UNIT 1: Interpreting Characters: The Heart of the Story

UNIT 2: Reading the Weather, Reading the World: Purposeful Reading of Nonfiction

UNIT 3: Biographies

UNIT 4: Historical Fiction Clubs