

# Language Arts Strategies Syllabus

Teacher: Mrs. Groover  
Room: F111  
Email: [pgroover@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:pgroover@greenville.k12.sc.us)  
Phone: 864-355-7936  
Website: <http://teachers.greenville.k12.sc.us/sites/pgroover>

Seventh grade English Gifted and Talented is a literature-based program that incorporates all of the SC Standards for English Language Arts. These standards are available at <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/offices/cso/standards/ela>

## Unit I

### Fiction and Nonfiction

Prentiss Hall Textbook Unit  
Plot Diagram Graphic Organizer  
“Rikki-tikki-tavi” by Rudyard Kipling  
Selected stories and articles

### The Bluford Series

*The Bully* and other selections  
Writing: journal, summary/paraphrase, letter  
Web site analysis  
Picture books  
Elements of fiction and nonfiction

### *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare (Adaptation)

Elements of drama  
Shakespeare and his times  
Writing: journal, summary, expository, character analysis

## Unit II

### *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

Elements of fiction  
Writing: dialectical journal, two-voice poem, character analysis

### *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens

### *Scrooge and Marley* (play adaptation by Israel Horowitz)

Elements of drama  
Dialogue  
Victorian England  
Comparing/contrasting characters  
Writing: comparison/contrast, journal

## Unit III

### *Souder* by William H. Armstrong

Universal themes  
Diction, symbolism, bias  
Writing: comparison/contrast essay, dialectical journal  
Problem solving  
Elements of biography

## Unit IV Part 1: Poetry

### Poetry Unit from Prentice Hall Text

Other selected poems  
Writing: poetry

## Part 2: Dreams

### *Gossamer* by Lois Lowry

Stylistic elements of author: description, tone, characterization, diction, *in media res*  
Elements of fiction: setting, conflict, theme, symbolism  
Critical thinking  
Writing: journal, double-entry journal, essay, original short story  
Writing a Short Story  
Thinking about Plot  
Elements of a Short Story  
Character Traits/Characterization  
Poetry

**Additional Activities:** Grammar and style review, vocabulary, Stems Lists 11-20 *The Word Within the Word*, Daily Dose (Word of the Day, editing/proofreading practice, standards review), independent reading, book reviews, journaling

**Classroom Behavior:** Students are expected to follow classroom expectations and to obey all school rules: Be on time. Bring all required materials. Stay in your seat. Raise your hand if you wish to speak. Show respect to everyone.