



# Falcon International School

## Course Description

### Third Grade

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### **Reading**

This year students will learn strategies that enable them to be effective readers. These strategies include prediction, inference, understanding phonics and decoding, self-monitoring, clarifying, asking questions, evaluating and summarizing materials. The instruction is standards-driven with specific goals in mind for the students. Students engage in a variety of learning and assessment activities that are adjusted to reflect their needs. . Reading and gaining an appreciation for literature will be at the heart of this class. They will learn to relate to the characters in their stories as well as analyze the author's reason for writing a story. Students engage daily in experiences in which they learn to express their thinking and understanding in writing. Basic language conventions such as writing complete sentences, proper punctuation, capitalization, and spelling are taught through explicit and comprehensible lessons. In addition, students will be immersed in a variety of genres such as personal narrative, non-fiction, fantasy, social issues, memoirs and poetry.

### **After successfully completing this course, the student will be able to...**

- Read critically
- Understand how to choose a just right book for themselves
- Understand what strategies make a good reader
- Understand how to describe and pay attention to characters in their books
- Understand the components of a personal narrative
- Understand how non-fiction differs from other genres
- Understand the different types of non-fiction
- Understand the key elements of non-fiction
- Understand author's purpose
- Understand symbolism and accurately find examples
- Understand how to make connections between the known and unknown
- Understand how to learn about characters in a book by observing the relationships around the main character
- Observe how groups are represented in a text
- Understand the components of a memoir
- Make connections using their own life and a memoir

### **Course Content**

#### **Unit- Introduction to Reading and Personal Narrative**

##### **Mentor Texts:**

**Tales of a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Nothing**

##### **Frindle**

-Officer Buckle and Gloria

- Decode Long Words
- Sentences

- Pepita Talks Twice
  - Narrative Elements
  - Use a Dictionary
  - Statements and Questions
- Nate the Great, San Francisco Detective
  - Decode Long Words
  - Literary Forms

### **Unit -Non-Fiction**

#### **Mentor Texts: to be determined...**

- Turtle Bay
  - Identifying the author's purpose.
  - Classify
  - Compound Sentences
- Balto, the Dog Who Saved Nome
  - Word Relationships
  - Make Predictions
  - Common and Proper Nouns

#### **Reading/Comprehension**

Expository/Informational texts -Structure

- The Kid's Invention Book
- A Very Important Day
- Fire!

Saguaro Cactus

- Wild Shots, They're My Life
  - Authors purpose
  - Singular and Plural Nouns

### **Unit - Fantasy**

#### **Mentor Texts:**

1. Narnia – The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe
2. The Paper Bag Princess

#### **Reading/Comprehension**

Fiction *fantasy, fables, folktales, mystery*

- The Cricket in Times Square
- The Emperor and the Kite
- In the Days of King Adobe
- The Case of Pablo's Nose

### **Unit - Content Area**

Mentor Texts:

Related to World History

#### **Reading/Comprehension**

Non-Fiction/Biographies/Realistic Fiction (World History connection)

- Lou Gehrig-The Luckiest Man
- In My Family
- Donovan's Word Jar

## **Unit – Social Issues**

Mentor Texts:

1. Joey Pigza Swallows A Key

## **Unit – Memoirs**

**Mentor Text: to be determined...**

### **Reading/Comprehension**

Small moments/Memoirs

- In My Family
- Lou Gehrig-The Luckiest Man
- Supplementary texts

## **Unit - Poetry**

Mentor Texts- Shell Silverstein