

What Your Child is Learning This Quarter: Page-Turners and Big Ideas

8th Grade Quarter 2

ELA

Unit 2: Resilience

Essential Question: What stories of resilience teach us about the human spirit?

Key terms: resilience, rhetorical appeals, narrative,

Unit 2 selection titles:

- The Diary of Anne Frank Act 1
- The Diary of Anne Frank Act 2
- Elie Wiesel’s Acceptance Speech for the Nobel Peace Prize

Performance Tasks and Performance Based Assessments

- **Informational Essay:** After completing the reading “The Diary of Anne Frank” students will learn to write an informational essay as they respond to the question: *In what ways do the experiences of Anne Frank and her family show the power of hope?*
- **Oral report:** After completing a peer-group section of the unit, students will work in their groups to plan, rehearse and present an oral report in response to the question: *How do the selections we’ve studied contribute to your understanding of the ways in which we build resilience?*

Homework: 3-4 times a week

Math

Unit 3: Linear Relationships

(Unit 3 Exam in Late November)

- Key Vocabulary: constant of proportionality, linear relationship, rate of change, solution to an equation with two variables, vertical intercept

Unit 4: Linear Equations and Linear Systems

(Unit 4 Exam in Early January)

- Key Vocabulary: coefficient, constant term, system of equations, term

Science

Unit 2: Earth Systems & Weather

Focus Question: How do Earth’s systems interact to shape our planet and influence weather?

Topic 1 – Plate Tectonics & Earth’s Crust (3–4

History





Unit 2- The development of the United States Government.

Topic 1- American Revolution- 3 weeks

Topic 2- Articles of Confederation- 2 weeks

weeks)
Topic 2 – Weather & Air Mass Interactions (4–5 weeks)
Intro Topic – Human Impact on Earth (1 week)

Assessments/Projects:

-  Plate Boundary Model (Mini-Project)
-  Plate Tectonics Quiz (Mid-December)
-  Weather Lab Activity
-  Weather Patterns Test (January)

Homework:

Assigned 2–3 nights per week.

Key Terms:

tectonic plates, plate boundaries, rock cycle, air mass, air pressure, precipitation, climate, natural resources

Topic 3- Constitutional Convention- 2 weeks
Topic 4- Federalist vs. Anti Federalist - 1 week
Topic 5- Intro to Constitution- 2-3 weeks

Vocabulary quizzes on most Fridays, I ask the students to spend 15 minutes every night to review key terms.

Homework will be given at least 2 - 3 nights a week.

Key terms- Oppress, discriminate, alliance, rebellious, Independence, humanity, sovereign, Amend, Declaration of Independence, Amendments, Articles of Confederation, constitution, confederation, Judicial Branch, Legislative Branch, Executive Branch.

Counseling:

Hello 8th grade families!

Your 8th grade students have been participating in groups in which they have been exposed to information about all the high schools they will have the opportunity to ballot to this winter. We are starting to have High Schools come into our building to give presentations to the students-so that they can make informed decisions about where they may want to attend High School.

Please be on the look out for information coming home in the beginning of January with directions on how to complete the high school ballot with your student!

~Ms. Sara and Mr. Joslyn, 8th grade counselors