

- Do YOUR Best
- Be Engaged and Participating
- Show Respect for ALL
- Remember, if there isn't a solution one way, let's find another
- Failure is NOT an option

Supplies

- Pens/ Pencils
- Highlighters
- Stick Glue
- Scissors
- Lined Paper
- Markers/Colored Pencils

*Students will have access to an **in- class** composition notebook and extra
supplies as needed.

*Donations of the above listed, tissue and Clorox wipes are appreciated:).

Come prepared to class with your writing utensils, planner, class notebook and supplies.

Start working on bell ringers immediately, so class starts within 5 minutes of the





criste.cottrell@bonnevilleacademy.org

Pourse Description

Welcome to Bonneville Academy and Middle School English Language Arts. My name is Ms. Criste Cottrell. In this class, we will be following the Utah Core Standards for ELA, which can be found

at https://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/elasecondary. We will be studying both literary and informational texts by analyzing and evaluating vocabulary, themes, the author's intended purpose of his or her writing, the point of view of characters, connections from one text to another and many other key components of literary comprehension. We will also work extensively on our writing skills, which include writing narratives, arguments, information pieces and learning to properly research and cite our sources. We will incorporate both writing and reading strategies throughout the year into print, multimedia and speech presentations. By doing this, we will also be working simultaneously on increasing our vocabulary comprehension, grammar and

Reading Logs

I don't require very much homework, but one thing I am consistent about is a weekly reading log. I require 30 minutes of reading each night, 5 days per week for a total of 150 minutes of reading per week. Reading Logs are due every Monday for the previous week's reading minutes.

I require that the student turn in his or her reading minutes to me themselves. This means the parent cannot e-mail me reading minutes, etc. I do this because I want students to learn responsibility and accountability. If their parent is e-mailing me the amount of minutes their student reads, the student won't learn the responsibility of having to keep track of things and return them when it is time. I believe this is a highly valuable skill.

Students will have exactly one week from the due date to turn in their reading minutes with NO penalty. That means if they are due on Monday September 3, they will have until the end of school on Monday September 10 to turn in their reading minutes. No penalty will be given if they are turned in up until this point. However, they will NOT be accepted at all after this point.

Students can read how to books, instruction manuals, cooking guides, fiction or non-fiction novels, the dictionary, encyclopedia, really almost anything that interests them. They can also read for other classes and count it towards their reading minutes, as long as it is documented on the reading log. I do prefer they read something close to their own reading level before a parent or guardian signs off on the reading minutes, but if they are reading out loud to a younger sibling for *some* of their minutes, because of the social implications attached, I would be okay with this as well.

Work should be turned in on its due date.
Late work will lose points on a perday-late basis.

spelling skills.



Imagination is the only Weapon in the war against Reality

-Lewis Carroll, Al<u>ice In Wonderland</u>

My philosophy as a teacher is that every student has the ability and right to learn. It is my job to make this happen. I incorporate differentiated teaching and know that every student is an individual, so what works for one student, may not work for another. For this reason, while I do my best to stick to a routine and make changes with as much notice as possible, if I need to change something to help better an individual or an entire class, I will. Feel free to e-mail me at any time with your questions, concerns and comments and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

with your questions, concerns and comments and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Please keep the above portion for your personal copy. Cut on the line and return the bottom signed and dated below, so I know you and your student have read and understand a few things about how Middle School English Language Arts will work this year. (It is also worth points.) Thanks, and I look forward to working with you.