

# REACH Reading & Research and REACH Language Arts



**Research**  
**Evaluate**  
**Analyze**  
**Communicate** *through*  
**Historical Perspective**



Sixth grade students who score a Level 4 or 5 on the FSA Reading Test are encouraged to enroll in the **6<sup>th</sup> grade REACH Reading & Research** class, instead of the traditional reading class, and the **accompanying REACH Language Arts**.

The REACH Reading & Research class will focus on building the research, technological, and communication skills that will be crucial for success in the worlds of work and higher education in our ever changing world.

With the amount of information that is available at our fingertips, it is very difficult for many adults, much less our students, to evaluate and analyze the information for accuracy and validity. Students will build a strong foundation of research skills that will be valuable throughout the rest of their academic careers. Just as important as the gathering information is learning what to do with it once it is gathered. Students will

learn to bring the pieces together and create a product that will communicate their message to the selected audience.

In addition to the research portion of this class, students will have the opportunity to read novels and works of non-fiction that will deepen their understanding of the cultures that they will be studying through their World History class. Some of the titles that will be introduced are:

Historical fiction, such as:

*Maroo of the Winter Caves*  
*Mara, Daughter of the Nile*  
*The Bronze Bow*

Retellings of ancient and medieval contemporary literature, such as:

*Gilgamesh the King*  
*The Ramayana*  
*The Wanderings of Odysseus*

Students in this class will also have the opportunity to improve their reading skills through the use of non-fiction selections and reading strategies that are designed especially for higher level readers.

Students who maintain a B average in both classes will continue this three-year program in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, giving them a head start on the skills that they will need in the rigorous high school programs in our county.

We are elated to be able to offer this class to our gifted and advanced students. We believe that this approach will give our students a boost in the quality of their educational experience.