

# **Language Arts Standards**

**with**  
**Performance Indicators**  
**(Introduced, Developed, Competent, Maintained)**

Developed Spring, 2000; Revised January 29, 2004

## **Language Arts Philosophy**

### Language Arts

We believe in an ongoing process of communication skills, both functionally and creatively. We believe our students should be able to clearly communicate their ideas through speaking, listening, and writing.

Our students should be able to speak using proper enunciation, volume, rate, expression and usage. Our students should be able to concentrate in listening to oral directions, in giving correct feedback and in interacting in small group discussions. Our students should be able to write sentences and paragraphs legibly using correct punctuation, spelling and grammar.

### Reading

We believe that we can help students develop the skills that will enable them to read well independently. Only after one skill has been mastered can children progress to the next skill. Children must be taught on the level in which they can experience success. This is necessary if they are to develop an enthusiastic and broad interest in reading.

### Spelling

We believe that spelling should be taught in order that students can learn to express their ideas more easily and more completely. When spelling is automatic, students can devote more of their mental resources to their message. Business and industry expect correct spelling and clear communication skills because in the competitive world of business, even the smallest error may be costly.

## Handwriting

We believe that all children can learn to write legibly. To accomplish this, supervised practice in handwriting is necessary in grades first through eighth. Our students should be able to develop muscle coordination with regular practice in handwriting. One of our main objectives will be to help our students develop a desire to write well at all times. We believe that children can be taught to analyze and check their own handwriting and thereby be encouraged to work for continuous improvement. Children should be able to look at their handwriting and be pleased with the result of their efforts. This can be a reminder to thank God for the talents He has given them and help to improve their self-image.

## **Program Standards**

- Be able to write in a concise and precise manner.
- Be able to read efficiently and for enjoyment.
- Be able to speak with confidence in an organized manner.
- Be able to listen politely and attentively for information.
- Be able to choose literature and relate it to one's life.
- Be able to use mass media for a wide variety of purposes.
- Be able to use the quality process to communicate.