

# NEWS WITH NICHOLS

English Language Arts

April 2020

## *Suggested Online Learning Activities:*

\* may change due to weather or class progress\*

Day	Monday 4/27	Tuesday 4/28	Wednesday 4/29	Thursday 4/30	Friday 5/1
Daily Reading Activity	Read 20-30 minutes	Read 20-30 minutes	Check email, Teams, or my web page for this week's lesson on Narrative Elements. Click through the PP, watch the videos, and practice on Quizizz.com using your class code.	Read 20-30 minutes Office Hours for Mrs. Nichols 12-1:30pm; video chat on Teams	Read 20-30 minutes Book Talk posted on YouTube channel <i>NewsWithNichols</i>

### ***Mrs. Nichols' Lesson:***

*Posted Every Wednesday Morning;  
Book Talk Posted on YouTube  
Every Friday Afternoon*

### ***Mrs. Nichols' Office Hours:***

*Thursdays, 12-2 pm  
Video Meeting on Teams-  
1st Pd: 12-12:20 pm  
2nd Pd: 12:20-12:40pm  
3rd Pd: 12:50-1:10  
5th Pd: 1:10-1:30*

**Third Quarter Grades, including conduct and effort, have been updated in the Hub for ELA. Report cards are planned to be mailed out on May 5th.**

### **Extension Activities:**

During this time of pandemic, safety and health is the number one priority. If students or parents are concerned about keeping up rigor or standards, please know that it will be different because this is a stressful time and we all internalize that stress differently. Taking time to READ each day is the most important way to build a love for reading while improving vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Take some time to write in a journal. Additionally, **OPTIONAL**, ungraded activities and access to Study Island, Readworks, and IXL will be made available for your student until the end of the school year.

### *Week at a Glance:*

Thank you for your patience as I finished grading retakes and NHI's. Third Quarter grades have been posted in the Hub.

Students, our lesson this week is on Narrative Elements. Remember, Plot Diagram includes: Exposition (Setting and Main Characters), Initiating Event (Inciting Incident that kicks off the story), Rising Action, Climax (point of no return 3/4 of the way through the story), Falling Action, and Resolution. Conflict and Theme play a role in Narrative Elements as well.

Class examples of Narrative Elements:

- Fausto in "No Guitar Blues"
- Salva Dut's Personal Narrative in *A Long Walk to Water*
- Book Club Novels
- Theme in *Love That Dog*

If you have any questions, please send me an email or be sure to ask me during office hours on Thursday. I have included extra notes and definitions for Narrative Elements in the Suggested Learning Activities document.

### ***Internet Links:***

[Study Island](#)   [Quizizz](#)  
[Free Rice](#)   [Flipgrid](#)  
[Office 365- Email, Word, Etc.](#)  
[MMS Weblinks](#)

*YouTube Channel:  
[NewsWithNichols](#)*

*Book Talk Friday 5/1*

# Upcoming Events

# April 2020

**\*Subject to change due to weather, government announcements, or class progress\***

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30 Suggested Learning Activities emailed out	31	1	2 Post your Flipgrid responses	3 Book Talk: First Chapter Friday	4
5	6 Spring Break	7 Spring Break	8 Spring Break	9 Spring Break	10 Spring Break	11
12	13 Teacher Work Day- from home	14	15 Wednesday ELA Lesson emailed and Posted in Teams- Context Clues	16 Nichols Office Hours 12-2pm	17 3rd Quarter Grades Updated; Book Talk	18
19	20 NHI's and Retakes are Due	21	22 Wednesday ELA Lesson emailed and Posted in Teams- Figurative Language	23 Nichols Office Hours 12-2pm	24 Book Talk; 3rd Quarter Grades Updated with Highest Score for Retakes	25
26	27 3rd Quarter Grades Posted in Mrs. Nichols' classes	28	29 Wednesday ELA Lesson emailed and Posted in Teams- Narrative Elements	30 Nichols Office Hours 12-2pm	1 Book Talk	2

## Tentative ELA Review Lesson Schedule:

- Week 3 (April 14) Context Clues
- Week 4 (April 20) Figurative Language
- Week 5 (April 27) Narrative elements
- Week 6 (May 4) Main Idea
- Week 7 (May 11) Organizational Patterns #1
- Week 8 (May 18) Organizational Patterns #2
- Week 9 (May 25) Summarization
- Week 10 (June 1) Affixes

### **Extra Practice Activities- Narrative Elements:**

Finished the Power Point lesson and embedded videos?  
 Finished the Quizizz on Narrative Elements? Looking for more optional learning at your own pace? Login to Readworks, read the article "The Strength of Three," and answer the questions. Still want more narrative elements? Complete your own examples with the lists included in the Suggested Learning Activities document, featuring a summary of *Shrek* and the YouTube video of *Burn-E*.

Roses are red.  
 April is grey.  
 But in a few days



IT'S GONNA BE MAY

Can you believe it? We are already heading into the month of May! **I will update our calendar next week.**

Interested in persuasive writing? Let Mrs. Nichols know! I will be starting an interest writing group for the month of May. It is optional and interest-based only. I will provide feedback on all writing.

Message from Marsteller's Librarians:

Hi Bulldogs!

There's still time to vote for your favorite Virginia Readers' Choice Book. Please send an email to Gilleskm@pwcs.edu by April 30 with your vote.

Here are the titles:

*Refugee* by Alan Gratz

*Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling

*Restart* by Gordon Korman

*Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess* by Shari Green

*Two Truths and a Lie: It's Alive!* by Ammi-Joan Paquette

*Lost in the Pacific, 1942: Not a Drop to Drink* by Tod Olson

*Watchdog* by Will McIntosh

*Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan

*The Red Bandanna: Young Reader's Adaptation* by Tom Rinaldi

*Braced* by Alyson Gerber

\*Also check out our weekly library activities. So far, a trivia activity, a brain teaser activity, a book trivia, and 2 book talks featuring 2 of the new Virginia Readers' Choice books for the 2020-2021 school year have been posted.

[https://marstellermms.pwcs.edu/our\\_school/library\\_/2020\\_summer\\_reading](https://marstellermms.pwcs.edu/our_school/library_/2020_summer_reading)

\*There are now Ebooks from our school's library catalog that you can download on your phone.

<https://marstellermms.pwcs.edu/cms/One.aspx?portalId=413784&pageId=42675798>

\*There is a list of FREE reading resources on our library page:

[https://marstellermms.pwcs.edu/our\\_school/library/\\_virginiareaderschoice](https://marstellermms.pwcs.edu/our_school/library/_virginiareaderschoice)

\*Please feel free to send either of us an email if you have any questions. Gilleskm@pwcs.edu and Williajl@pwcs.edu

Sincerely,

Ms. Gillespie and Ms. Williams