***3rd Grade ELA Vocabulary***

argument: ***a reason for or against something***

caption: ***a phrase or sentence that gives more information about a visual such as a photograph or diagram***

categorize: ***to sort or organize items or ideas according to their similarities***

cause: ***a reason why something happens***

central message: ***a lesson about life that an author expresses in a piece of writing (theme)***

compare: ***to tell how things are alike***

claim: ***a statement used to answer a question***

concluding statement: ***a statement at the end of a written response that restates the claim***

connection: ***to recognize a relationship between one idea and another***

context clues: ***the words, phrases, or sentences around an unfamiliar word that help the reader understand its meaning***

contrast: ***to tell how things are different***

detail: ***fact, example, or reason that supports a claim***

determine: ***to figure something out, make a decision, or realize something*** ***to be true***

dialogue: ***the words that characters say to one another***

distinguish: ***to tell the difference between 2 given ideas***

draw conclusions***: to use the information you read and your prior knowledge to form an overall idea or an opinion about a piece of writing***

effect: ***the result of a cause***

ex: The boy dropped a glass, and it shattered!

cause: The boy dropped the glass.

effect: The glass shattered.

evidence: ***proof or details that support a claim***

fact: a ***statement that can be proven true***

fluency

key details: ***facts, examples, or reasons that explain, describe, or prove the main idea***

literal: ***the meaning of a phrase exactly as the words are stated***

main idea: ***the overall topic/focus of a piece of writing***

make inferences: ***using details from a selection that aren’t stated directly by the author***

mood: ***the feelings and reactions that illustrations help create in a story***

moral: ***a lesson or truth about life that is usually found at the end of a fable***

multiple-meaning words: ***words that are spelled the same but are used, and sometimes pronounced differently***

narrator: ***the person or character who is telling the story***

nonliteral (figurative): ***words that mean something other than their literal, or dictionary, definitions***

opinion: ***a personal belief that cannot be proven true (how you feel about an idea)***

paraphrase: ***to restate*** ***a portion of a text in your own words while retaining the same meaning***

perspective: ***the point of view from which a story is told or an idea is shared***

plot : ***a series of events that describe the beginning, middle and end of a story***

point of view: ***the perspective from which the narrator tells a story***

first person: narrator is a character ***in*** the story and uses ***I, we, me*** and ***us***

third person: narrator is someone ***outside*** the story and uses ***he, she, they*** and ***them***

position

prompt: ***an idea or topic on which to write***

response: ***a spoken or written answer***

root (base) word

scan: ***to examine a text for important or specific details***

scene

schema: ***the prior knowledge a reader uses to help bring meaning to text***

sequence: ***the order of events in a story or the steps in a process***

setting: ***where and when a story takes place***

selection: ***a story or passage***

source: ***person or text where information came from***

stanza: ***a group of lines in a poem***

summarize: ***to briefly retell the most important events of a story in the order that they happened***

support

theme: ***a truth or lesson about life that can be found in a piece of writing***

visualize: ***to use details and descriptions from a poem or story to create a mental picture of what you read on the page***

voice: ***the way in which an author expresses his/her feelings in a piece of writing***

***Nonfiction Text Features***

text features: ***words, phrases, and sections of a text, such as headings, lists, and sidebars, that stand out to help the reader understand the information***

caption: ***a phrase or sentence that gives more information about a visual such as a photograph or a***

diagram***: an illustration, usually with labels and a caption***

charts/tables: ***a text feature used to organize complex information into rows and columns so that the reader can easily understand it***

footnote: ***a note of reference, explanation, or comment usually placed below the text on a printed page***

glossary: ***an alphabetical list of difficult words or technical terms usually found in the back of a book***

guide words: ***the words that are at the top of a page in a dictionary or similar book and that show the first and last words on the page***

graph***: a diagram that shows (as by dots or lines) the change in one variable in comparison with that of one or more other variables***

heading: ***a word or phrase in bold print above a section of a text that tells what that section is about***

illustration: ***a picture that shows information to help you understand a story or article***

index: ***an alphabetical list in a printed work that gives, with each item listed, the page number where it may be found (usually in the back of a book)***

types of print: ***print that is used to make a word stand out from the other words in a text***

***bold:* darker print**

***italic:*** *slanted print*

***highlighted:*** lightly shades print that can still be seen clearly

***capitalized:*** ALL IMPORTANT WORDS IN A TEXT ARE IN UPPERCASE.

label***: information that names a part of a visual, such as diagram, with a lead line that points to that part***

map: ***an illustration, or visual aid, that shows the exact location of a place***

photograph: ***a type of visual that shows what people, places, or things really look like (camera picture)***

sidebar: ***a block of text that is set off from the main text and adds new information about a topic***

speech bubble: ***a balloon that represents the words or thoughts of a character, often in a comic book or cartoon and points to that character***

subheadings: ***a title given to one of the parts or divisions of a piece of writing***

symbol: ***a letter, character, or sign used instead of a word or group of words***

pronunciation key: ***an arrangement of sounds that indicate how a word is read***

table of contents: ***a list of chapters or stories (and their page numbers) in a book in order of appearance***

timeline: ***a table listing important events for a period in history in the order in which they occurred***

title: ***the name of a piece of writing that tells what it is about***

vocabulary: ***a list or collection of words defined or explained***

***Literary Genres***

genre: ***a particular type or category of literature***

fiction: ***a made-up story***

drama: ***a story that can be performed by actors on a stage***

fable : ***a story in which a character learns a lesson***

ex: “The Ant and the Grasshopper”

fairy tale: ***a simple children’s story about imaginary beings***

fantasy: ***a work of literature set in an unreal world often with superhuman characters or monsters***

folktale: ***a story made up and handed down from the common people***

historical fiction: ***a made-up story based on real events in history***

myth: ***a story that explains how something in nature came to be***

Ex: “The Two Weavers”

poetry: ***a form of literature written in lines and stanzas that often uses rhyme, rhythm, and colorful descriptions to convey ideas and feelings***

science fiction: ***a type of imaginative (made-up) literature that uses scientific knowledge***

short story: ***a made-up piece of fiction that tells a story in only a few pages***

tall tale: ***a greatly exaggerated, fictional story that often depicts wild adventures of folk heroes (Paul Bunyan and Johnny Appleseed)***

nonfiction: ***writing dealing with facts and real events***

autobiography: ***a kind of factual writing that tells the story of a real person’s life and is written by that same person***

biography: ***a kind of factual writing that tells the story of a real person’s life and is written by another person***

essay: ***a short written work giving a personal view or opinion on a topic***

historical nonfiction: ***factual literature that tells about real events and people from the past***

personal narrative: ***a true story of something that happened***

scientific nonfiction: ***a kind of informative writing that gives facts about science topics***

technical (informational) text: ***a kind of factual, informative writing that tells how to do something or how something works***

***Conventions/Usage of English***

adjective (comparative/superlative)

adverb

capitalization

noun

plural

predicate

prefix: ***a word part added to the beginning of a root word that changes its meaning***

pronoun

punctuation (period, question mark, exclamation point, comma, colon, quotation marks, parentheses, apostrophe)

singular

subject

suffix

syllable

verb