

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER

Florida Grade 7 Teachers

Dear Florida Seventh Grade Teachers,

Thank you for considering bringing your students to the Dolphin Research Center. We have a variety of educational opportunities available to you and they are all listed on our website. However, just coming on site allows you to meet a variety of educational standards that are a part of your educational curriculum.

We have narrated sessions and theater presentations all day long. Attending these sessions will meet many of the Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS) for speaking and listening including:

- **LAFS.7.SL.1.1** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion. b. Follow rules for collegial discussions, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed. c. Pose questions that elicit elaboration and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant observations and ideas that bring the discussion back on topic as needed. d. Acknowledge new information expressed by others and, when warranted, modify their own views.
- **LAFS.7.SL.2.4** Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with pertinent descriptions, facts, details, and examples; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
- **LAFS.7.SL.2.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
- **LAFS.7.L.2.3** Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. a. Choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, recognizing and eliminating wordiness and redundancy.
- **LAFS.7.L.3.6** Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Second we have educational signs stationed throughout the grounds. These signs alone can meet many of the LAFS related to the reading of informational text. Again, you may choose to expand on the topics with your students back in the classroom to incorporate other LAFS related to writing.

- **LAFS.7.RI.1.1** Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.



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- **LAFS.7.RI.1.2** Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.
- **LAFS.7.RI.1.3** Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).
- **LAFS.7.RI.2.4** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
- **LAFS.7.RI.2.5** Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas.
- **LAFS.7.RI.2.6** Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others

In addition to meeting the LAFS our narrations and signs also provide information that is related to the following Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science (NGSSS):

- **SC.7.N.1.3** Distinguish between an experiment (which must involve the identification and control of variables) and other forms of scientific investigation, and explain that not all scientific knowledge is derived from experimentation.
- **SC.7.N.1.5** Describe the methods used in the pursuit of a scientific explanation as seen in different fields of science such as biology, geology, and physics.
- **SC.7.L.16.1** Understand and explain that every organism requires a set of instructions that specifies its traits, that this hereditary information (DNA) contains genes located in the chromosomes of each cell, and that heredity is the passage of these instructions from one generation to another.
- **SC.7.L.17.1** Explain and illustrate the roles of and relationships among producers, consumers, and decomposers in the process of energy transfer in a food web.
- **SC.7.L.17.2** Compare and contrast the relationships among organisms, such as mutualism, predation, parasitism, competition, and commensalism.
- **SC.7.L.17.3** Describe and investigate various limiting factors in the local ecosystem and their impact on native populations, including food, shelter, water, space, disease, parasitism, predation, and nesting sites.
- **SC.7.E.6.6** Identify the impact that humans have had on Earth, such as deforestation, urbanization, desertification, erosion, air and water quality, and changing the flow of water.

You may opt to have students take what they have learned here and apply it to a research project (informational or persuasive) back at your school, allowing for the integration of additional writing standards. You may find a detailed list of these standards by visiting the grade appropriate standards letter for the state of Florida.



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We thank you for your consideration and sincerely hope that you will take the time to bring your students to visit our dolphins in our wonderful natural classroom!

Dolphin Research Center Education Team

