



## Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** English Language Arts, Grade 5

**School Year:** 2024-2025

**Semester(s):** 1 and 2

**Grade Level(s):** Grade 5

**Course Day(s) and Times:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm PST

### Teacher Information

- **Name:** Mary Anne DeGeeter
- **Email:** maryanne.degeeter@brancheslearning.org
- **Office Hours:** By appointment only
- **Branches Learning Main Office Number:** (323) 955-0114

**Class Materials** - <https://brancheslearning.org/product/language-arts-grade-5/>

---

### Course Description

**Semester 1 Book: *Wonder*** – We will read about 2-4 chapters per week. If we are running behind, reading will be assigned for homework. We will discuss the chapters in class and in breakout rooms. Students will be assigned a Guided Chapter Summary for homework, along with projects along the way. All homework will be posted in Google Classroom.

**Semester 2 Book: *Awkward and Brave (2 books)*** – We will read about 2-4 chapters per week. If we are running behind, reading will be assigned for homework. We will discuss the chapters in class and in breakout rooms. Students will be assigned a Guided Chapter Summary for homework, along with projects along the way. All homework will be posted in Google Classroom.

**Vocabulary:** We will review vocabulary words from the story, their meanings and how to use them correctly in sentences.

**Grammar Skills:** Students will learn about: sentence structure; kinds of sentences; punctuation; parts of speech; subject and predicate agreement; using quotes; and how to use commas.

**Writing:** Students will do Quick Writes in class: They will be given a topic and they write on it for 10 minutes; then we look for grammar mistakes, misspelled words and share in class or with a partner. Students will write a final paper going through the Writing Process: prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing.

**Projects:** Self-Portrait with your own precept; Mr. Browne's Precepts booklet; create a storyboard



**Final Project:** Students will an essay on kindness.

**Class Format:** Quick Write, edit & share; read; discuss reading, in prep for Guided Chapter Summary homework; Grammar Skills (not every class); go over homework or project or writing assignment.

## **Course Expectations**

Students should be prepared for every class by:

- having a quiet place to work in.
- having your materials ready: pen or pencil, notebook, reading book.
- having your camera on.
- being on time.
- participating in class.
- submitting work in a timely fashion.
  
- treating others with respect; and asking for help when needed.

## **Grading Scale**

### **Elementary School, Grades K-5**

- EE – Exceeding grade level expectations
- ME – Meeting Grade Level Expectations
- AE – Approaching Grade-Level Expectations
- LE – Lack of Evidence Needed to Assess Grade-Level Expectations
- WTG – Working Toward Personal Goals Outlined in a Student’s IEP

Final grades are determined by the quality and completion of assignments, attendance, and participation.

## **Important Branches Learning Policy Information**

### **Camera Policy**

Branches Learning requires students to keep their cameras on during live classes unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Exceptions can be made in rare circumstances if the course teacher, supervising teacher (HST), and the parent all approve a camera waiver.

### **Headset Policy**

Students attending live classes from a shared space must have a headset with a microphone to ensure the class is not disrupted by background noise.



### **Attendance Policy**

Absences must be reported to the course instructor via email or sent to [info@brancheslearning.org](mailto:info@brancheslearning.org). Class recordings are available upon requests.

Attendance and participation are part of the final grade. Students who miss more than 40% of live classes may fail the course. Exceptions may be made if a pre-approved plan is in place.

### **Late Work**

Assignments turned in after the due date will result in a lower grade unless pre-approved by the instructor.