

Education, n.: That which discloses the wise and disguises from the foolish their lack of understanding.

[Ambrose Bierce](#)

God is the perfect poet.

[Robert Browning](#)

St. Sebastian School **Reading / Language Arts Philosophy**

Reading/Language Arts is a complex, interactive process that continues to be a primary means of acquiring and using information. Society regards reading/language arts as essential to daily living. Because reading/language arts is fundamental to the mastery of other school subjects, students at all levels must learn to understand what they read. They must know and use various strategies – ways of unlocking the meaning of words and larger blocks of texts – to become successful readers.

Our Reading / Language Arts Curriculum is divided into areas:

- *Reading/Literature*
 - *Pre-Reading*
 - *During Reading*
 - *Post-Reading*
- *Writing*
- *Oral Language*
- *Language*
- *Media and Technology*
- *Research and Inquiry*

Reading / Language Arts Goals

- Be challenged to read quality literature that reflect and stimulate their interests.
- Value reading and read effectively for a variety of purposes.
- Competently read a wide variety of materials, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and other creative offerings.

- Perceive themselves as productive, proficient learners.
- Learn how to write for various purposes and audiences.
- Develop a working knowledge of language as well as grammatical structures, diction and usage, punctuation, spelling, layout, and presentation
- Know content, structure and uses of a variety of narrative and expository selections.
- Write clearly and effectively to share information and knowledge, to influence and persuade, and to create and entertain.
- Listen to understand, and will speak clearly and effectively for diverse purposes.
- Apply their knowledge of the nature of grammar, and variations of American English.
- Use media and technology critically and creatively to obtain, organize, prepare and share information
- Use technology to enhance their communications skills.
- Apply foundations of Catholic social teaching to Reading/Literature selections
- Identify elements of the gospel message within the well known and utilized Reading/Literature selections.
- Apply their knowledge and understanding of Catholic values and virtues in their written expression when appropriate.