

MIDDLE SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS

(Writing, Grammar, Literature)

Grades 6 to 8

Course Description

Students in grades 6 to 8 are invited to join me as we learn to write outlines, paragraphs, stories and essays using Institute for Excellence in Writing's (IEW) *Following Narnia Volume 1: The Lion's Song* by Laura Bettis. I love teaching IEW and believe that this system provides the structure that students need to develop confidence in the writing process, while gradually guiding them toward greater independence and creativity.

Students will read the first three books in the Chronicles of Narnia Series: *The Magician's Nephew*, *The Lion*, *The Witch and the Wardrobe*, and *The Horse and His Boy*, all by C.S. Lewis.

We will spend class time going over the week's writing lesson and discussing the Narnia chapters that students will read at home. The writing assignments correspond to the assigned chapters in the Narnia books as well as dig into WWII history (the time period of Lewis' writing). Students are expected to use assigned vocabulary words in their weekly writing assignments.

Each week I will teach one very brief lesson of grammar using IEW's Fix it! Grammar curriculum. We will complete Day 1 of the lesson in class together and students will complete days 2-4 in their workbook at home.

Textbooks

For Writing: Parents need to purchase *Following Narnia Volume 1: The Lion's Song Writing Lessons in Structure and Style* by Laura Bettis. This can be purchased from IEW.com or from christianbook.com for \$35. This book has lessons geared towards homeschoolers that meet weekly, giving clear assignments and activities to be completed in class and at home. We will work through one lesson every week during class time and students will be expected to complete the accompanying writing assignment at home during the week, turning in their work to me the following week. I will grade and give feedback on writing assignments but typically one on one time isn't possible in this kind of class setting.

Parents are expected to work with their student throughout the week and edit the student's rough drafts.

For Literature and grammar: Parents will need to purchase or check out from the library *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *The Magician's Nephew*, and *The Horse and His Boy*. Parents also must purchase *Fix it! Grammar Robin Hood Student Book Level 3* by Pamela White. This can be purchased from IEW.com or christianbook.com for \$19.

Tuition

Deposit due at registration \$25 non-refundable paid directly to REACH
Tuition for 1 year=\$350 for self pay families
Tuition for 1 year=\$375 for LAMP families
LAMP families owe the yearly balance of what LAMP does not cover by 10/18/24 and are required to self-pay for any missed LAMP payments due to a student not meeting LAMP requirements.

AMY BOEKESTEIN

EDUCATION

B.S. in Biblical Studies at
Kuyper College, Grand
Rapids

B.A. in Elementary
Education at Cornerstone
University, Grand Rapids

EXPERIENCE

Paraprofessional at Moline
Christian, Moline

Elementary teacher at Zion
Christian, Byron Center

Homeschool mom

Girls' Club teacher at
Immanuel Fellowship
Church, 7 years

Youth group leader

Substitute teacher at local
public and Christian
schools, 2 years

Writing tutor at Reach since
2021

FAMILY

Married to Pastor Bill
Boekestein, 21 years
4 children (18, 17, 15, 9)

CONTACT ME

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DISCOUNT

Self-pay families receive a
\$25 tuition discount!