

Choose Your Path



Creative Writing and Adaptive Stories

Dear Parents, Teachers, and PEAKers,

We had an exciting week learning some brand-new dynamic features within PowerPoint that allow students to create non-linear presentations. They each came up with a story with many choice points and created branching “buttons” (which can be simple buttons, icons, images, text, or even invisible regions) that transport the reader to new sections within the presentations. It was fun to watch them use problem-solving skills to create these practice documents and share them with other students for critique. This week, partner pairs will start their actual projects, which will also be blending two or more literary genres chosen by the students.

Additionally, students will get to meet and work with a real author! Helena High School librarian (and author) Beth Driggers will be joining us each morning to talk about genre-specific writing, how to create compelling characters, settings, and stories, how to use the proper voice in writing, and so much more. She’ll also give the students feedback on their own literary works. Thank you so much, Mrs. Driggers!

Lastly, students will participate in a literary “dinner party” activity, where they’ll interact with other students as literary characters. The catch is, no one will know who they themselves are portraying- they’ll have to use context clues from their interactions with other students to sleuth out their own identities.

This Week’s Activities: April 15 - 19

<p>Interpersonal: Teamwork/ Collaboration I can assume an assigned role within a group and effectively contribute to a team.</p>	<p>Writing Teams - Students have selected partners with whom to work on their final literary projects for this unit. They’ll begin combining their chosen genres and starting their stories this week.</p>
<p>Research: Expert-Led I can listen respectfully, take notes, actively ask relevant questions, and utilize expert information in my own work.</p>	<p>Exploring Genres, pt. 3 - Students have learned about literary genres. This week students will get a much deeper look at genres and creative writing in visits from author and librarian Beth Driggers.</p>
<p>Technology: Software I can effectively use various applications to create content for an activity or project in a teacher-led activity.</p>	<p>PowerPoint Pathways - Students have learned a new function within PowerPoint: Action Buttons. This week they’ll begin using this dynamic feature to start making the frameworks for their partner stories.</p>
<p>Communication: Role-Playing I can assume the role of another person/entity authentically within an activity or project.</p>	<p>Literary Dinner Party - Students will participate in an activity interacting with each other as literary characters. They will try to figure out who their name tag says they are based on other students’ conversation to them.</p>

Building our Worlds,

J. Slead

PEAK GT4-5: Spring 2024

April 15 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	16 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	17 Four Georgians Hawthorne Students leave at 12:30pm for Helena Symphony Concert	18 Smith Broadwater Bryant	19
22	23	24	25	26
SBAC Testing district-wide (PEAK schedule accommodations listed below)				
Jefferson Rossiter Warren: PM Only	Jim Darcy, Kessler, Central: PM Only	Four Georgians, Hawthorne: PM Only	Smith Broadwater, Bryant: PM Only	
29 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	30 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	May 1 Four Georgians Hawthorne	2 Smith Broadwater Bryant	3
6 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	7 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	8 Four Georgians Hawthorne	9 Smith Broadwater Bryant	10
13 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	14 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	15 Four Georgians Hawthorne	16 Smith Broadwater Bryant	17
20 AM: Jefferson Rossiter Warren PM: Four Georgians Hawthorne	21 AM: Jim Darcy Kessler Central, PM: Smith Broadwater Bryant	22 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> PEAK Middle School Physics Competition Trip (No Elementary PEAK Classes) </div>	23	24
27 Memorial Day No School	28 PEAK Leadership Conference (All PEAK Students)	29 No PEAK Classes	30 No PEAK Classes	31