



2019-20

# CALVERT HOMESCHOOL™ CURRICULUM CATALOG

## Language Arts 500



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## Language Arts 500 Course Overview

Language Arts 500 continues to build on the sequential development and integration of language arts skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Special attention is placed on reading non-fiction texts. Students identify text features and explain how graphic elements lead to comprehension and continue to build grammar skills in support of clear communication. Speaking skills are built upon in this course through memorization and recitation of the powerful Gettysburg Address. Students also learn what good communication is and how to practice this in all areas of their lives.

This course specifically focuses on deepening and furthering students' understanding in the following ways:

- **Unit 1:** Demonstrate active reading strategies to find the main idea and analyze meaning of academic words and use sound patterns and syllable patterns to read fluently
- **Unit 2:** Engage with and identify features of nonfiction text and form a historical understanding of the Gettysburg Address and recite it from memory
- **Unit 3:** Understand the components of language and how to use them effectively in writing and presenting information with public speaking in addition to understanding how the English language has changed over time
- **Unit 4:** Explain metacognitive skills to use before, during, and after reading and write a descriptive paragraph, an opinion piece, and a report
- **Unit 5:** Read and evaluate stories, using summarizing skills and comparing and contrasting two different texts and follow the writing process to write a narrative
- **Unit 6:** Use comprehension skills while reading poems to compare/contrast and analyze different types of poetry, identify poetic ideas and devices, and write poems using a variety of formats
- **Unit 7:** Use a variety of comprehension skills in order to understand texts and formulate questions and participate in discussions
- **Unit 8:** Use knowledge of the parts of speech to identify and analyze parts of a sentence, as well as analyzing and writing fables
- **Unit 9:** Summarize information presented in diverse media and formats, interpret information presented in biographies, and construct a report that incorporates facts and opinions

Unit 1: Language Skills	
Assignments	
1. Course Overview	10. Quiz: Dialogue, Vocabulary, and Academic Language
2. The Author's Message	11. Using Spell Check
3. Project: Finding the Topic	12. Project: Spelling Story*
4. Vowel Diphthong Design	13. Short Story: Joe's Dilemma Part 2
5. Spelling: Vowel Changes	14. Quiz: Reading and Writing Efficiently
6. Quiz: The Author's Message and Vowel Diphthong Design	15. Unit Review
7. Short Story: Joe's Dilemma Part 1	16. Special Project*
8. Vocabulary Study	17. Test
9. Academic Language	18. Alternate Test*
	19. Glossary and Credits

**Unit 2: Working with Information****Assignments**

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|--|---|
| 1. Reading Nonfiction                                | 11. Project: Procedural Presentation*       |
| 2. Compound Words and Hyphens                        | 12. Parts of Speech                         |
| 3. Memorizing and Reciting the Gettysburg Address    | 13. Contractions                            |
| 4. Quiz: Reading and Hyphens                         | 14. Quiz: Contractions and Procedural Texts |
| 5. Main Ideas and Supporting Details                 | 15. Unit Review                             |
| 6. Project: Outline                                  | 16. Special Project*                        |
| 7. Good Communication                                | 17. Test                                    |
| 8. Quiz: Main Ideas, Details, and Good Communication | 18. Alternate Test*                         |
| 9. Text Features and Graphic Elements                | 19. Glossary and Credits                    |
| 10. Reading Procedural Texts                         |   |

**Unit 3: The Story of Our Language****Assignments**

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| 1. Comprehension   | 13. Project: Multimedia Presentation on an Author*   |
| 2. Word and Sentence Study                               | 14. Homonyms, Idioms, and Abbreviations              |
| 3. Quiz: Comprehension and Word Study                    | 15. Using Nouns and Adjectives                       |
| 4. Elements of the English Language                      | 16. Project: Descriptive Narrative                   |
| 5. Prefixes and Suffixes                                 | 17. Initials and Acronyms                            |
| 6. Project: Book Report - Nonfiction                     | 18. Quiz: Language Confusion and History of Language |
| 7. Phrases, Adjectives, and Adverbs                      | 19. Unit Review                                      |
| 8. Punctuation in a Series                               | 20. Special Project*                                 |
| 9. Quiz: Parts of Speech, Context Clues, and Punctuation | 21. Test   |
| 10. Writing a Short Story                                | 22. Alternate Test*                                  |
| 11. Language Confusion: Anglo-Saxon                      | 23. Glossary and Credits                             |
| 12. Middle and Modern English                            |  |

**Unit 4: Effective Communication****Assignments**

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|---|--|
| 1. Reading Skills   | 13. Project: Taking Notes                  |
| 2. Sentence Patterns and Appropriate Words                          | 14. Written Report - Preparing an Outline  |
| 3. Quiz: Main Ideas and Appropriate Words                           | 15. Creating an Essential Question         |
| 4. Sensible Sentences   | 16. Project: Drafting Research Questions   |
| 5. Project: Writing Descriptive Setting Paragraphs                  | 17. Project: Outline                       |
| 6. Types of Conjunctions  | 18. Project: Drafting Your Report          |
| 7. Project: Participating in and Summarizing Claims in a Discussion | 19. Media Literacy                         |
| 8. Reading Skills and Robin Hood                                    | 20. Project: Advertisements and Persuasion |
| 9. Quiz: Reading, Writing, and Discussion Skills                    | 21. Quiz: The Written Report               |
| 10. Project: Writing an Opinion Piece                               | 22. Unit Review                            |
| 11. Written Report - Selecting a Topic and Gathering Information    | 23. Special Project*                       |
| 12. Research and Gathering Sources                                  | 24. Test                                   |
|   | 25. Alternate Test*                        |
|   | 26. Glossary and Credits                   |

Unit 5: Reading and Writing Stories		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Reading for Meaning	13. Quiz: Writing Sentences, Dialogue, and Cursive
	2. Writing About a Text	14. Story Writing
	3. Project: Writing a Summary	15. Using Commas to Introduce
	4. Judging the Value of a Story	16. Project: Short Story
	5. Project: Book Report - Historical Fiction	17. Project: Story Comparison
	6. Quiz: Reading and Summarizing a Story	18. Quiz: Story Writing and Punctuation
	7. Mastering Dialogue	19. Unit Review
	8. Capitalization Rules	20. Special Project*
	9. Project: Making Conversation	21. Test
	10. Project: Seed Ideas*	22. Alternate Test*
	11. Writing Better Sentences	23. Glossary and Credits
	12. Cursive Writing	

Unit 6: Poetry		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Reading Story Poems	13. Poetic Ideas and Devices
	2. Dialects in Text	14. Poetic Forms
	3. Enjoying Poetry	15. Project: Pen Pictures and Couplets
	4. Identifying Historical Context in Written Works	16. Project: Free Verse Poem
	5. Project: Rhythm	17. Project: Poetry Book*
	6. Quiz: Poetry and Historical Context	18. Quiz: Poetic Forms and Devices
	7. Poetry	19. Unit Review
	8. Reading Humorous Poems	20. Special Project*
	9. Playing With Words	21. Test
	10. Project: Book Report - Poetry	22. Alternate Test*
	11. Quiz: Humorous Poetry	23. Glossary and Credits
	12. Reading Inspirational Poems	

Unit 7: Reading Comprehension		
Assignments		
Language Arts 500	1. Cause and Effect	13. Judgments, Inferences, Facts, Opinions, and Mood
	2. Sequence in Gulliver's Travels	14. Vocabulary Practice
	3. Analyzing a Plot: Foreshadowing	15. Preparing for a Discussion
	4. Project: Personal Reaction to Lilliput	16. Asking Questions of a Text
	5. Quiz: Sequence, Foreshadowing, and Personal Reactions in Stories	17. Quiz: Judgments, Vocabulary, and Discussions
	6. Third Person Point of View	18. Identifying Adjectives
	7. Reviewing Nouns	19. Project: Adjectives
	8. Singular and Plural Nouns	20. Adjective Placement
	9. Possessive Nouns; Uses of Nouns	21. Quiz: Adjectives
	10. Pronouns	22. Unit Review
	11. Indefinite Pronouns	23. Special Project*
	12. Quiz: Third Person Point of View, Nouns, and Pronouns	24. Test
		25. Alternate Test*
		26. Glossary and Credits

<b>Unit 8: Working with Words</b>		
<b>Assignments</b>		
Language Arts 500	1. Main Verbs	11. Aesop and Fables
	2. Verb Forms	12. Project: Fable Rewrite
	3. Subject/Verb Agreement and Contractions	13. Types of Sentences
	4. Participles	14. Project: Fables
	5. Quiz: Verbs	15. Quiz: Fables
	6. Modifying with Adverbs	16. Unit Review
	7. Making Adverbs from Adjectives	17. Special Project*
	8. Showing Comparisons with Adverbs	18. Test
	9. Project: Preparing and Giving an Oral Presentation	19. Alternate Test*
	10. Quiz: Adverbs and Adjectives	20. Glossary and Credits

<b>Unit 9: Reading and Study Skills</b>		
<b>Assignments</b>		
Language Arts 500	1. Improving Reading Fluency and Study Skills	11. Writing a Report with Facts and Opinions
	2. Short Story: Richard Whittington and his Cat	12. Project: Preparing a Fact and Opinion Report
	3. Project: Summary of Richard Whittington	13. Project: Fact and Opinion Report
	4. Quiz: Reading and Study Skills	14. Quiz: Literary Forms, Fact and Opinion
	5. Maps, Charts, and Diagrams	15. Unit Review
	6. Outlines	16. Special Project*
	7. Project: Book Report - Biography	17. Test
	8. Quiz: Maps, Charts, Diagrams, and Outlines	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Reviewing Literary Forms	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Analyzing Primary Sources: Persuasion	

(\*) Indicates alternative assignment