

# What is a Communication Arts Magnet?

The Communication Arts Magnet Program at Hilton Elementary will provide first- through fifth-graders with a comprehensive, well-balanced academic program focusing on extensive reading of various genres of quality literature, elaborate writings, oral communication and an introduction to Spanish as a foreign language. Students will establish a solid foundation in the English language with an emphasis on reading, writing, and oral and visual communications.

In the Communication Arts program, students will be immersed in the various genres of award-winning literature. The program will foster the development of students' oral communication skills through memorized poetry recitations, public speaking and elaborate interdisciplinary student performances. Additionally, communication skills will be enhanced through student writings to include poetry, prose, and nonfiction pieces. Students will learn to communicate via various media and other technology and develop an understanding of music and visual arts as important tools of communication. The Communication Arts program places a strong emphasis on

community involvement. Through community service projects, students and staff work to enrich both our local and global communities.

All Newport News schools are built around the same core curriculum and meet all state Standards of Learning. Like all elementary students, children at Hilton will receive a solid foundation in reading, language arts, math, science, social studies, the arts, and health and physical education.

Students will develop the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in middle school and beyond in their future roles as informed citizens.



Communication Arts  
Magnet Program

# Hilton Elementary

 NEWPORT NEWS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*Smart, Safe Schools!*

## Who is eligible?

All first- through fifth-grade Newport News students are eligible to apply for the Communication Arts Magnet Program. The Communication Arts Program is especially appropriate for self-directed students who have a strong interest in reading challenging quality literature, which varies in length and includes fiction and nonfiction. The program is also suited for student writers to fully explore communication in its written form. These students are motivated and focused in order to write for a variety of purposes such as poetry, prose, letters, and research. Students spend time composing in every content area. Completing the verbal communication component encompasses a focus on oratorical skills, oral presentations, elaborate interdisciplinary performances and an introduction to a foreign language.

Applicants are selected based on computer lottery and space availability. Siblings of current students and shadow zone students who live in Newport News may be given priority in the lottery if space is available.

## What does the program require of parents?

Parents are expected to sign an agreement pledging to:

- ◆ Sign and adhere to parent/student/school contract
- ◆ Be involved in their children's education
- ◆ Communicate regularly with teachers
- ◆ Provide daily study time at home and supervise homework
- ◆ Provide a place and encourage their children to read various forms of literature assigned and for enjoyment
- ◆ Have their children complete writings and projects independently
- ◆ Play audience to their children as they practice for their oratorical presentations
- ◆ Uphold the program's standards and expectations
- ◆ Ensure that students attend regularly and on time
- ◆ Adhere to the dress code policy

## What is distinctive about the program?

- ◆ Introduction to foreign language instruction
- ◆ Enriched literature program with a strong emphasis on reading various genres of quality literature
- ◆ Strong emphasis on various types of writings to include poetry, prose, and nonfiction
- ◆ Regular oratorical components such as public speaking, memorized poetry recitation, and elaborate student performances
- ◆ Emphasis on integration of art, music, physical education and media studies with all content area subjects
- ◆ Community service projects
- ◆ Dress code policy
- ◆ Parent/student/school contract



## How do I apply for the program?

All students who wish to attend magnet programs must apply by submitting a Magnet School Application Form. Application forms are available from any Newport News school, from the Administration Building, 12465 Warwick Boulevard, or from Newport News Public Schools website at [www.nnschools.org/academic/magnet.html](http://www.nnschools.org/academic/magnet.html).

Transportation is provided to all magnet programs.

## How can I get more information?

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