Grade 8 English Language Arts

Curricular Competencies

			Comprehend & Connect												Create & Communicate		
Big Ideas	• Language and text can be a source of creativity and joy. • Exploring text and story helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world. • Developing our understanding of how language works allows us to use it purposefully. • Purpose, audience, and context guide the author's choices in the construction of text. • Language can shape ideas and influence others. • People understand texts differently depending on their worldviews and perspectives. Texts are socially, culturally, and historically constructed.		Access information and ideas for diverse purposes and from a variety of sources and evaluate their relevance, accuracy, and reliability.	Apply appropriate strategies to comprehend written, oral, and visualtexts, guide inquiry, and extend thinking	Recognize and appreciate how different forms, structures, and features of texts reflect different purposes, audiences, and messages	Think critically, creatively, and reflectively to explore ideas within, between, and beyond texts	Recognize and identify the role of personal, social, and cultural contexts, values, and perspectives in texts	Recognize how language constructs personal, social, and cultural identity	Construct meaningful personal connections between self, text, and world	Respond to text in personal, creative, and critical ways	Understand how literary elements, techniques, and devices enhance and shape meaning	Recognize how literary elements, techniques, and devices enhance and shape meaning	Recognize and appreciate the role of story, narrative, and oral tradition in expressing First Peoples' perspectives, values, beliefs, and points of view	Exchange ideas and viewpoints to build shared understanding and extend thinking	Use writing and design processes to plan, develop, and create engaging and meaningful literary and informational texts for a variety of purposes and audiences	Assess and refine texts to improve their clarity, effectiveness, and impact according to purpose, audience, and message	Use an increasing repertoire of conventions of English spelling, grammar, and punctuation
Content	**Story/text**	form, function, and genre of texts															
		features of written text															
		literary elements															
		literary devices															
		elements of non-fiction texts															
		elements of visual/graphic texts															
		argument															
		relevance, accuracy, reliability															
	Strategies and processes:	reading strategies															
		oral language strategies															
		metacognitive strategies															
		writing processes															
	Language features, structures, and conventions:	features of oral language															
		language usage and context															
		elements of style															
		syntax and sentence fluency															
		conventions															
		presentation techniques															