

English Language Arts – Strategic Reading and Writing – Grade 8

2021-2022 Pacing Calendar

Units of Instruction

Unit 1: Metacognition: What Skilled Readers Do

Unit 1 establishes the metacognitive, reading, and writing practices and routines necessary to facilitate the reading and writing workshop.

Students will examine and read a variety of text genres, while building their knowledge of the reading process. Student will be given time and support to read texts of their choice.

Reading Focus:

Establishing metacognitive routines used when reading for various purposes.

Writing Focus:

Establishing routines for how readers respond to text.

2021		August				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	Enrichment Opportunities					
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
	Enrichment Opportunities					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Teacher Service Days (no students)		Teacher Prep Day (no students)	Teacher Service Days (no students)		
22 C1W1	23 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	24	25	26	27	28
29 C1W2	30 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	31	01	02	03	04
05	06	Notes: Aug. 16-20 - Teacher Service Days (no students)				

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Units of Instruction

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Reading Focus:

Establishing metacognitive routines used when reading for various purposes.

Writing Focus:

Establishing routines for how readers respond to text.

2021		September				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 C1W2	30	31	01 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04
05 C1W3	06 Labor Day	07 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	08	09	10	11
12 C1W4	13 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	14	15	16 Fall Holiday	17 Teacher Service Day (no students)	18
19 C1W5	20 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	21	22	23	24	25
26 C1W6	27 Unit 1 (22 45-min. class periods)	28	29	30 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	01	02
03	04	Notes: Sept. 6 - Labor Day Sept. 16 - Fall Holiday Sept. 17 - Teacher Service Day (no students)				

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Units of Instruction

Unit 2: Analyzing Informational Texts

Unit 2 includes the reading of expository and procedural texts while continuing to build comprehension in reading.

Students examine how authors choose to communicate ideas through the use of details, facts, graphical components, and organizational patterns.

Students respond to text in a variety of ways, including discussion, journal writing, and visual/symbolic representation.

Reading Focus:

Reading informational texts to analyze author's craft and purpose.

Writing Focus:

Writing an expository piece and responding to texts in a variety of ways

2021		October				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 C1W6	27	28	29	30	01 • Extend • Review • Assess • Reteach	02 END OF CYCLE 1
03 C2W1	04 Teacher Service Day (no students)	05 Unit 2 (24 45-min. class periods)	06	07	08	09
10 C2W2	11 Unit 2 (24 45-min. class periods)	12	13	14	15	16
17 C2W3	18 Unit 2 (24 45-min. class periods)	19	20	21	22	23
24 C2W4	25 Unit 2 (24 45-min. class periods)	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	Notes: Oct. 4 - Teacher Service Day (no students)				

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2021	November					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 C2W5	01 Unit 2 (24 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04	05	06
07 C2W6	08 Unit 2 (24 45-min. class periods)	09	10	11	12	13
14 C3W1	15 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Thanksgiving						
28 C3W2	29 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	30	01	02	03	04
05	06	Notes: Nov. 22-26 - Thanksgiving Break				

Units of Instruction

Unit 3: Analyzing Literary Texts

Unit 3 includes the reading of fiction and literary nonfiction while continuing to strengthen comprehension skills.

Students review literary elements and analyze how authors convey their message and purpose.

Students make connections, find patterns and similarities across text, utilize their prior knowledge in order to respond to the text.

Reading Focus:
Reading fiction and literary nonfiction to analyze literary elements.

Writing Focus:
Writing responses to text and drafting a personal narrative or short story.

**END OF
CYCLE 2**

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2021	December					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 C3W2	29	30	01 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04
05 C3W3	06 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	07	08	09	10	11
12 C3W4	13 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Enrichment Opportunities		Winter Break			
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
	Winter Break					
02	03	Notes: Dec. 20-31 - Winter Break				

Units of Instruction

Unit 3: Analyzing Literary Texts

Unit 3 includes the reading of fiction and literary nonfiction while continuing to strengthen comprehension skills.

Students review literary elements and analyze how authors convey their message and purpose.

Students make connections, find patterns and similarities across text, utilize their prior knowledge in order to respond to the text.

Reading Focus:
Reading fiction and literary nonfiction to analyze literary elements.

Writing Focus:
Writing responses to text and drafting a personal narrative or short story.

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Units of Instruction

Unit 4: Examining Poetry and Drama

Unit 4 explores the reading of drama and poetry while continuing to strengthen comprehension skills.

Students read poetry and drama to analyze how authors create meaning and convey mood using dramatic and poetic elements.

Students craft original poems in addition to making connections, finding patterns and similarities across texts, and writing personal responses to texts.

Reading Focus:

Reading to interpret drama and poetry

Writing Focus:

Responding to text and writing a poem.

2022		January				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02 C3W5	03 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	04	05	06	07	08
09 C3W6	10 Unit 3 (24 45-min. class periods)	11	12	13	14	15
16 C4W1	17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	18 Teacher Prep Day (no students)	19 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	20	21	22
23 C4W2	24 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	25	26	27	28	29
30 C4W3	31 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	Notes: Jan. 17 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Jan. 18 - Teacher Preparation Day (no students)				
						END OF CYCLE 3

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Students craft original poems in addition to making connections, finding patterns and similarities across texts, and writing personal responses to texts.

Reading Focus:

Reading to interpret drama and poetry

Writing Focus:

Responding to text and writing a poem.

2022		February				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 C4W3	31	01 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04	05
06 C4W4	07 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	08	09	10	11	12
13 C4W5	14 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	15	16	17	18	19
20 C4W6	21 Teacher Service Day (no students)	22 Unit 4 (23 45-min. class periods)	23	24	25	26 END OF CYCLE 4
27 C5W1	28 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	Notes: Feb. 21 - Teacher Service Day (no students)				

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Units of Instruction

Unit 5: Investigating Argumentative Texts

Unit 5 explores the study of argumentative texts while continuing to strengthen metacognitive skills. In addition, students will utilize use test-taking strategies such as annotating.

Students synthesize what they have learned about author’s craft to draft an argumentative text and to respond to texts in multiple ways.

Reading Focus:

Reading and analyzing various argumentative texts critically and responding in a variety of ways.

Writing Focus:

Writing an argumentative piece and responding to texts.

2022		March				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 C5W1	28	01 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04	05
06 C5W2	07 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Enrichment Opportunities				Spring Break		
20 C5W3	21 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	22	23	24	25	26
27 C5W4	28 Chávez / Huerta Day	29 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	30	31	01	02
03	04	Notes: Mar. 14-18 - Spring Break Mar. 28 - César Chávez/Dolores Huerta Day				

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2022	April					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 C5W4	28	29	30	31	01 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	02
03 C5W5	04 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	05	06	07	08	09
10 C5W6	11 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	12	13	14	15 Spring Holiday	16
17 C5W7	18 Unit 5 (24 45-min. class periods)	19	20	21	22	23 END OF CYCLE 5
24 C6W1	25 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	26	27	28	29	30
01	02	Notes: Apr. 15 - Spring Holiday				

Units of Instruction

Unit 6: Student Inquiry

Unit 6 continues to strengthen students' metacognitive skills and explores inquiry through the research process.

Students will conduct research, formulate questions, and analyze the credibility of informational sources and their relevance.

Students will support their written presentations textual information from their inquiry to produce and deliver multimedia presentations.

Reading Focus:
Reading informational text to answer inquiry questions.

Writing Focus:
Writing to present inquiry findings through text and a multimedia presentation.

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Units of Instruction

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Unit 6 continues to strengthen students' metacognitive skills and explores inquiry through the research process.

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Students will support their written presentations textual information from their inquiry to produce and deliver multimedia presentations.

Reading Focus:

Reading informational text to answer inquiry questions.

Writing Focus:

Writing to present inquiry findings through text and a multimedia presentation.

2022		May				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01 C6W2	02 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	03	04	05	06	07
08 C6W3	09 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	10	11	12	13	14
15 C6W4	16 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	17	18	19	20	21
22 C6W5	23 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	24	25	26	27	28
29 C6W6	30 Memorial Day	31 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	01	02	03	04
05	06	Notes: May 30 - Memorial Day				

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2022		June				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 C6W6	30	31	01 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	02	03	04
05 C6W7	06 Unit 6 (24 45-min. class periods)	07	08 Teacher Prep Day (no students) END OF CYCLE 6	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
03	04	Notes: Jun. 8 - Teacher Preparation Day (no students)				

Units of Instruction

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Reading Focus:
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Writing to present inquiry findings through text and a multimedia presentation.