

Galway ELA Curriculum Guide 8th Grade

READING:

Word Recognition

- Recognize at sight a large body of high-frequency words and specialized content vocabulary
- Use a variety of word recognition strategies, such as letter-sound correspondence, syllable patterns, decoding by analogy, word structure, use of syntactic (grammar) cues, and use of semantic (meaning) cues, to read unfamiliar words quickly and accurately
- Use varied sources of information, including context, to monitor and self-correct for word-reading accuracy

Background Knowledge and Vocabulary Development

- Acquire grade-appropriate vocabulary by reading a variety of texts across subject areas
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words, terms, and idioms by using context, dictionaries, glossaries, and other print and electronic resources
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words, terms, and idioms by using word structure knowledge, such as roots (e.g., Greek and Latin), prefixes, and suffixes, to determine word meaning
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words, terms, and idioms by using prior knowledge and context clues
- Recognize grade-appropriate synonyms and antonyms and use a thesaurus to identify additional examples
- Recognize multiple meanings of words and connections among meanings of words

Fluency

- Read grade-appropriate texts with appropriate expression, phrasing, and pacing

Comprehension/Response

- Respond to and comprehend various genres for student-selected and teacher-selected purposes
- Combine multiple strategies (e.g., predict/confirm, question, visualize, summarize, monitor, self-correct) to enhance comprehension and response
- Use text structure and literary devices to aid comprehension and response
- Work collaboratively with peers to comprehend and respond to texts
- Analyze, contrast, support, and critique points of view in a wide range of genres
- Find, evaluate, and combine information from print and electronic sources for student-selected and teacher-selected inquiries
- Demonstrate comprehension and response through a range of activities, such as writing, drama, oral presentation, and mixed media performance

Motivation to Read

- Show interest in reading a wide range of texts, topics, genres, and authors
- Read voluntarily for a variety of personal and academic purposes
- Be familiar with titles and authors of a wide range of grade-appropriate literature
- Engage in independent silent reading for extended periods of time

WRITING:

Spelling

- Correctly spell most words in one's writing
- Use a variety of spelling resources, such as spelling dictionaries and spell-check tools, to spell words correctly

Text Production

- Use legible print or cursive writing, or type

Composition

- Compose, mechanically grade-appropriate texts for a variety of student-selected and teacher-selected purposes
- Write with voice to address varied purposes, topics, and audiences across the curriculum
- Organize writing effectively to communicate ideas to an intended audience
- Compose arguments to support points of view with relevant details from single and multiple texts
- Work collaboratively with peers to plan, draft, revise, and edit written work
- Produce written and multimedia reports of inquiry, using multiple sources

Motivation to Write

- Engage in writing voluntarily for a variety of purposes, topics, and audiences
- Publish writing in a variety of presentation or display media

LISTENING:

Listening

- Listen with comprehension, for an extended period of time, to texts read aloud
- Listen with comprehension, for an extended period of time, to oral presentations
- Listen with comprehension for student-determined and teacher-determined purposes

Based on May 2005 NYS ELA Core Curriculum PK – Grade 12 Literacy Competencies.

Prepared spring 2008.

- Respond appropriately to what is heard
- Listen with comprehension and respect when others speak

SPEAKING:

Speaking

- Speak to share responses to a variety of texts and performances
- Use precise vocabulary to communicate ideas
- Speak, using grammatical structures suited to particular audiences
- Speak to include details and examples relevant to the audience and purpose
- Communicate spoken ideas in an organized and coherent manner
- Speak with expression, volume, pace, and gestures appropriate to the topic, audience, and purpose of communication
- Respond respectfully to others
- Participate in group discussions on a range of topics and for a variety of purposes
- Offer verbal feedback to others in a respectful and responsive manner