

Curriculum on a Page Grade 8 - Fourth Quarter

LRSD Curriculum is outlined for teachers in detailed curriculum maps. This document is an overview of the curriculum to which all students in the LRSD have access with appropriate modifications, support, enrichment and remediation when needed. As a rule, teachers may add to but not subtract from this curriculum.

We integrate the reading and writing, speaking and listening, and research in the secondary curriculum.



Reading Selections: Students will read drama and nonfiction to address the theme of establishing empathy with main characters. **Plays:** *The Diary of Anne Frank*, "Life is Beautiful" excerpt in literature book. **Research:** Internet, magazine and newspaper articles and other sources for information on The Holocaust and WWII. **Practical Reading:** Photos, and Individual students' data from charts/graphs. Note: In middle schools, **Accelerated Reader** is used to motivate students for independent reading and is not part of the curriculum.



Discussion Themes: historical context of play of Anne Frank; background knowledge of WWII and Holocaust; analysis of one character throughout play; elements/features of drama; Socratic Seminar on political forces and culture in play; plot and subplots of Anne Frank; comparison of two plays; author's use of inaccuracies; use of humor in play; personal growth over year.



Writing: As they read and discuss, students will write the following pieces:

Journal Response to Reading	Generate questions for research and reading	✓ Character description from play	Visual, oral, or written representation of quote from play	Summary of current movie with story board
Summary of scene from play	✓ Compare/contrast essay from choice of topics related to 2 plays	Open-response type questions	✓ Personal essay summarizing growth and progress of 8 th grade year	

Writing Conventions: Specifically taught this quarter and integrated with previously taught skills are self and peer editing; Cornell style note-taking; research; summarizing; all grammar and writing conventions from year. Writing conventions (grammar, usage, mechanics) are best taught in conjunction with student's own work. **All students maintain a writing portfolio, which follows students from 6th grade to graduation. These portfolio pieces are indicated with ✓ above.**

Vocabulary Skills: Vocabulary is taught in four ways: Academic vocabulary terms specific to literacy; specified and as needed contextual vocabulary from reading; study of Greek and Latin root words and affixes; and whenever clarity is needed. Students are taught using a variety of strategies that allow them to use the terms, recognize the new words in context, and demonstrate mastery in daily work. Word walls are tools for building vocabulary in each classroom.