MUSD Grade 8 Curriculum - Year at a Glance

ELA 8

Content	AZ State Standards AZCCRS ELA 7	Overview	Assessment Overview
Unit 1: Strengthening Skills for Success	8.RL.1 8.RL.2 8.W.2 8.SL.1.a, b 8.L.1 8.L.4.b	This unit establishes the expectations for reading literature in the 8th grade, building on close reading practiced in 7th grade and focusing on using text to develop ideas and support writing. The emphasis of writing is on formal structure and improving sentence-level composition.	• Write objective summaries • Compose a response to literature
Unit 2: Writing Informational/ Explanatory text	8.RI.1 8.RI.2 8.RI.3 8.RI.5 8.W.2 8.SL.2 8.L.1	Unit 2 provides students with the opportunity to practice reading informational texts for central idea, citing supporting evidence, and examining relationships between information within a text. They will evaluate provided sources and materials, cite evidence, and document research using MLA.	• Write an AASA (Arizona Academic Standards Assessment) aligned multi paragraph informative essay
Unit 3: An Examination of Character	8.RL.1 8.RL.2 8.RL.3 8.RL.4 8.W.2 8.SL.1 8.L.1.b.c 8.L.4.a	This is an extended literature unit that focuses on the examination of characterization, dialogue, and specific incidents in a story and how those elements develop the meaning overall. Students will engage in analytical writing practice and discussions with texts from different genres, including poetry and prose.	• Independently read a story and write an analytical response to literature
Unit 4: Crafting Arguments & Preparing for transfer	8.RI.6 8.RI.8 8.RI.9 8.W.1 8.W.8 8.L.1	This unit requires students to transfer their critical reading practice to the examination of arguments. Students will engage with text sets to evaluate credibility, examine points of view, and compare how texts are structured differently. Students will also use source information to cite evidence that supports their own claims.	• Write a multi paragraph argument that cites and documents research using MLA format.

Unit 5: Archetypes & Definitions: What is a hero?	8.RL.3 8.RL.4 8.RL.5 8.RL.6 8.RL.9 8.W.2 8.L.5.a	This unit centers around the idea of understanding how literature demonstrates some of the consistent characteristics, themes, and struggles of humanity. In particular, students will explore archetypes and allusions related to the hero's journey.	• Create graphic and written analysis of text • Write an essay defining the term "Hero" citing examples from life and text

Science

Unit Name	AZ State Standards	Overview	Assessment Overview
Unit 1: Physical Science	8.P1U1.1 8.P1U1.2 8.P4U1.3 8.P4U1.4 8.P4U2.5	Students apply stability and change to explore chemical properties of matter and chemical reactions to further understand energy and matter.	• Develop and use models to construct explanations • Construct and explanation • Develop a solution to a problem • Obtain and evaluate information from text to communicate findings
Unit 2: Life Science	8.L3U1.9 8.L3U3.10 8.L4U1.11 8.L4U1.12	Students explore how genetic variation occurs in organisms that reproduce sexually. This is because both parents contribute different genes that are passed onto the resulting offspring in random combinations. This results in gradual trait changes over time, but mutations can cause sudden changes. Natural selection is the mechanism that describes how genetic variations among individuals in a population can change a population over time. These changes can be brought about by either environmental impacts or by human interaction.	• Develop and use models to obtain, evaluate, and communicate information • Construct and explanation • Obtain and communicate information to use evidence to support an argument
Unit 3: Earth Science	8.E1U1.6 8.E1U3.7 8.E1U3.8	Students will take an analysis of fossils and patterns within rock strata and can provide relative dates of the rock layers and information about the geologic events that have occurred over time. They will make observations of phenomena and see how technology helps us predict certain natural hazards. Students will engage in arguments about the human consumption of limited resources impacting Earth's natural systems and the species within them.	• Obtain and communicate information to use evidence to support an argument

Social Studies

Unit Name	AZ State Standards 6-8 Grade Band Standards	Overview	Assessment Overview
Unit 1: Foundations of United States Government	8.SP4.2 8.C1.1 8.C3.2	Students will be introduced to the foundations of the United States government stemming from historical events such as the American Revolution. There will be a focus on the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and the 10th and 14th Amendments in creating a federal republic that shares specific ideals and principles. Students will understand the structure, function and principles contained in the United States Constitution.	• Analyze and evaluate the influences, origin and development of the U.S. Constitution
Unit 2: The Three Branches	8.SP3.8 8.C3.3	Students will be able to compare the structures, powers, and limits of each branch of government including Congress, the Presidency, the federal bureaucracy and the national courts. Students will be able to compare each branch and will assess specific rules and procedures in each branch that govern the day to day functions of our government.	• Explain the structures, powers, and limits of each branch of the United States government • Argumentation
Unit 3: Elections and Political Parties	8.C3.1 8.SP3.5	Students will be introduced to the formal institutions involved with electoral politics in the United States such as elections and political parties. Students will be able to explain election procedures and processes They will also be able to describe the impact that elections have. Students will also be able to describe the roles of political parties and differentiate between parties and interest groups. While learning about elections and parties, students will be practicing analyzing primary and secondary sources.	• Analyze impact of linkage institutions on various scenarios • Source analysis
Unit 4: Citizenship, Rights, Roles and Responsibilities	8.C2.2 8.H3.3 8.C2.4	Students will explore the rights, roles and responsibilities of citizens in our republic. Students will be able to explain and compare the rights listed in the Constitution, the specific roles citizens can fulfill and the responsibilities we share.	• Identify and compare the rights, roles, and responsibilities of citizenship
Unit 5: Social and Political Movements	8.H3.1 8.H.3.2	Students will investigate social and political movements in the 20th Century. Students will explore underlying principles such as rule of law, freedom of speech, assembly and petition, etc. and how those principles support the formation and activities of social and political movements. Students will also	• Analyze the goals, tactics, and accomplishments of a social movement in US history

		analyze the goals, tactics and accomplishments of these movements.	
Unit 6: Foundations of Economics	8.E3.1 8.E3.2	Students will be introduced to foundational economic principles such as supply, demand, factors of production, markets and scarcity. Students will learn how economics is the study of choices by individuals, firms, and societies and will engage in a simulated business to analyze the relationship between supply and demand.	• Simulate a business model to evaluate the roles of buyers, sellers, profits, and the factors of production • Analyze the relationship between supply and demand
Unit 7: Personal Finance	8.E1.4 8.E1.5 8.E2.1	Students will be introduced to key concepts in personal finance. They will examine the factors that influence spending decisions, create a budget and examine the benefits of budgeting, saving, and investing.	• Analyze and create budgets

Math			
Unit Name	**AZ State Standards 8th Grade**	**Overview**	**Assessment Overview**
Unit 1: Transformations and Angle Relationships	8.G.A.1 8.G.A.2 8.G.A.3 8.G.A.4 8.G.A.5	Students will develop an understanding of congruence and similarity through the use of transformations. Students will be able to translate, rotate, reflect, and dilate shapes to determine congruence and similarity. The concept of congruence will help them develop and work with angle relationships while the concept of similarity will help them apply scale factor to determine lengths and heights of different objects. Students will recognize and apply how transformations, congruency, and similarity can be used in the world around them such as in video gaming.	• Apply transformations to model a real world situation
Unit 2: Equations and Inequalities	8.EE.C.7 a 8.EE.C.7 b	Students will continue to hone their skills on solving equations and inequalities from previous years in mathematics. They will explore the relations between the structure of equations and the numbers of solutions as well as extend equations to include the distributive property, combining like terms, and variables on both sides. These properties will allow students to model real world situations beyond what they have been able to in the past. Students will apply their understanding by making sense of the structure of equations to determine the number of solutions and interpret them in context.	• Write and solve equations and inequalities in a skills test
Unit 3: Linear	8.F.A.1 8.F.A.2	Students will build off of their understanding of unit rate and dive into slope and functions. Students will learn about functions and how they relate to	• Use and translate between different representations if

Relationships and Functions	8.F.B.4 8.F.B.5 8.EE.B.5	modeling and explore different ways to represent situations. As students work through functions, they will focus on linear relationships and make connections between unit rate and slope. Students will apply these concepts by creating and interpreting different representations of linear functions to model real world situations.	linear relationships to compare situations
Unit 4: Systems of Equations	8.EE.C.8 a 8.EE.C.8 b 8.EE.C.8 c	Students will extend what they know about solutions and linear functions to work with multiple equations simultaneously. Students will explore relationships of linear functions and equations as they determine and interpret solutions to systems in different contexts. Students will apply their understanding by creating a linear system to model situations and help them make decisions about the world around them.	• Create a system of equations to model and describe a situation
Unit 5: Statistics	8.SP.A.1 8.SP.A.2 8.SP.A.3 8.SP.A.4	Students will continue to build on their understanding of the world of modeling and linear functions by incorporating data. Students will collect and analyze data to create linear models, determine the validity of the model, and make predictions. Students will also learn about ways to organize data not only with scatter plots but also with frequency tables. Students will apply their understanding by using mathematics to make predictions and interpret solutions in context.	• Use real world data to create a model and justify decisions
Unit 6: Exponents and Scientific Notation	8.EE.A.1 8.EE.A.3 8.EE.A.4	Students will examine repeated multiplication and work with exponents and their properties (power, product, quotient, negative, and zero power properties). Students will then apply pieces of these properties when working with scientific notation to represent real world situations where numbers are too large or too small to represent with standard notation. Students will apply their knowledge by simplifying expressions, representing numbers using different notations, and comparing the magnitude of numbers to help classify information and make decisions.	• Simplify expressions with exponents in a skills test • Apply scientific notation to justify decisions about a real world situation
Unit 7: Irrational Numbers, Pythagorean, and Geometry	8.NS.A.1 8.NS.A.2 8.EE.A.2 8.G.B.7 8.G.B.8 8.G.C.9	Students will expand their knowledge on the number system but including irrational numbers. Irrational numbers will apply directly to working with the pythagorean theorem to determine missing sides of triangles as well as working with distances. Students will then apply concepts of irrational numbers and pythagorean theorem to make sense of different shapes. Students will apply irrational numbers and the pythagorean theorem to determining the volume of different shapes such as cylinders and spheres. Students will be able to create mathematical representations of real world situations to explore how shapes are used in the world around us.	• Apply knowledge of irrational numbers and pythagorean theorem in a skills test • Use geometry to design a space
Unit 8: Probability	8.SP.B.5a 8.SP.B.5b	Students will use their knowledge to find probability and the relative frequency of events. Students will learn about sample space,different	• Create and use different representations to

	8.SP.B.5c	representations to help them determine probabilities, and probabilities of compound events. Calculating probabilities will allow students to determine the likelihood of certain events occurring and help them make educated decisions.	calculate probabilities