



## NEW EXPECTATIONS FOR EIGHTH GRADE:

- ▶ Compare different pieces of evidence for the same claim. Decide which piece of evidence is the strongest.
- ▶ Analyze the effect of specific words, sentences, and paragraphs: for example, when a certain phrase reveals how the author or a character really feels.
- ▶ Explain how differences in point of view can make a text funny or suspenseful: for example, when the reader knows something that a character does not know (dramatic irony).
- ▶ Analyze how someone's motives affect the way they share information. For example, explain how a newspaper or political advertisement uses photos and headlines to influence readers.



## BY THE END OF EIGHTH GRADE, STUDENTS CAN:



- ▶ Understand connections between modern texts and traditional ones, like when a short story reminds its readers of (alludes to) an ancient myth.
- ▶ Notice when someone includes irrelevant information in their argument—evidence that does not relate to their claim.
- ▶ Use words and details carefully to show how they feel about a topic (convey a tone, like *happy* or *disapproving*) when writing.
- ▶ Use technology to present information and communicate with others. For example, use platforms like Google Classroom or Schoology for discussions with teachers and classmates.
- ▶ In class discussions, make contributions and ask questions that connect what several other people have said.
- ▶ Use commas (,), dashes (—) and ellipses (...) to signal a pause: for example, write *Yesterday's basketball game was exciting—especially the end!*

## QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- ▶ What do you think about \_\_\_\_\_? Why might someone disagree with you? What would you say to them?
- ▶ How is the book different from the movie? Why do you think they are different? Which one do you think is better? Why?



## TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- ▶ What speaking or listening skills your child is working on
- ▶ Ways to practice critical reading and viewing in everyday life, like with advertisements

