



8th Grade Reading Language Arts (RLA) Syllabus

Course Description

8th Grade RLA encourages students to think critically, read closely, and write purposefully across a variety of genres. Through text study, discussion, and composition, students will explore fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry, as well as conduct research. The curriculum is designed to build academic literacy, strengthen comprehension, and prepare students for the STAAR assessment and high school success.

Curriculum Overview

Quarter	Unit	Dates	Theme	District Assessments
Q1	Unit 1	Aug. 18 – Oct. 9	Everyone Loves a Mystery	BOY MAP (9/2–9/5), LC 1 (9/25–9/26)
Q2	Unit 2	Oct. 20 – Dec. 19	Past & Present (The Power of Words)	LC 2 (11/17–11/18), MOY MAP (12/8–12/12)
Q3	Unit 3	Jan. 6 – Mar. 12	Beyond Reality	STAAR Benchmark (2/10)
Q4	Unit 4	Mar. 23 – May 21	Trying Times	STAAR RLA (4/14), EOY MAP (5/4–5/8)

All units include embedded holidays and teacher planning days. Core texts and supplemental texts will support unit themes and TEKS alignment.

Skills & Standards

- Analyze elements of literary genres and author's purpose
- Make inferences and support ideas with text evidence



- Evaluate language choices and structure in argumentative and poetic texts
- Synthesize information across texts and genres
- Respond analytically and reflectively to texts in written form
- Conduct research and evaluate sources for credibility and bias
- Engage in inquiry-based learning and present synthesized findings
- Develop and revise compositions that are organized and purposeful
- Apply grammar, sentence structure, and mechanics in writing
- Build vocabulary and critical thinking through text-based discussions

Grading

Please refer to the Forney ISD Grading Guidelines for information regarding grading practices, late work policies, reassessment opportunities, and academic expectations.