





ABOUT WIT & WISDOM

Wit & Wisdom® is a Kindergarten through Grade 8 English language arts (ELA) curriculum created by Great Minds®, an organization that brings together teachers and experts who believe all students deserve access to rich, rigorous content. With Wit & Wisdom, every text a student explores is authentic and of the highest quality. Students use these texts at every turn—to learn, and eventually master, essential reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and vocabulary skills. Instead of basals, students read books they love to build knowledge of important topics and to develop and refine literacy skills. All students read and discuss grade-level texts, and the curriculum includes suggestions for supporting this learning at key moments in the lessons.

Wit & Wisdom is composed of four modules per grade level. Each artfully explores a specific topic to develop depth of understanding and inspire curiosity. The core of each module is a selection of literary works, informational texts, and visual art. Modules are made up of approximately 30 lessons that are covered in six to eight weeks. All modules integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language instruction.

HIGH RATINGS

The independent, nonprofit reviewer EdReports.org gives *Wit & Wisdom* top ratings for text quality, building knowledge, and usability. *Wit & Wisdom* is the only ELA resource to receive a Tier 1 designation for all grades, Kindergarten through Grade 8, from the Louisiana Department of Education.

PROVEN RESULTS

Schools and districts nationwide are experiencing increased student engagement and growth with *Wit & Wisdom*. See their stories and data at greatminds.org/english.

ONGOING SUPPORT

To support and sustain successful implementation, *Wit & Wisdom*'s team offers customizable professional development—online or on-site. *Wit & Wisdom* also includes support resources available only from Great Minds:

Introducing Wit & Wisdom

- Core text list
- Implementation Guide
- Module o (GK-2, G3-5, G6-8)

Extending Wit & Wisdom

- Parent Tip Sheets
- Volume of Reading text list
- Wit & Wisdom assessment resources (Standards Trackers and Question Sets)
- The Art of *Wit & Wisdom* (lessons and vocabulary relating to the curriculum's rich artwork)

Missouri Learning Standards: English Language Arts Correlation to Wit & Wisdom

GRADE 8 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The majority of the Grade 8 Missouri Learning Standards: English Language Arts are fully covered by the Grade 8 *Wit & Wisdom* curriculum. The areas where the Grade 8 Missouri standards and Grade 8 of the *Wit & Wisdom* curriculum do not align will require supplemental materials and use of *Wit & Wisdom* content from other grade levels. A detailed analysis of alignment is provided in the table below. With strategic placement of supplemental materials, students can be successful in achieving the proficiencies of the Missouri standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge building of *Wit & Wisdom*.

KEY

G = grade level Examples:

M = module G8 M1 L6 = Grade 8 Module 1 Lesson 6

L = lesson G8 M1 L6DD = Grade 8 Module 1 Lesson 6 Deep Dive

DD = Deep Dive

	Strand: Reading Literary Texts						
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom				
Comprehend and Interpret Texts (Approaching Texts as a Reader)	Evidence/ Inference	8.RL.1.A Draw conclusions, infer, and analyze by citing the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	G8 M1 L1-3, L5-8, L10-11, L14-15, L18-19, L21, L29 G8 M2 L6-11, L13-20, L22-24, L26-28, L30, L33-34, L36 G8 M3 L1-11, L20-21, L23-27, L29-31, L33-34				
	Word Meanings	8.RL.1.B Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings using context, affixes, or reference materials.	G8 M1 L3DD, L4DD, L11DD, L15, L24DD, L32DD, L33DD G8 M2 L6DD, L7DD, L8DD, L10, L10DD, L11DD, L13, L17–19, L22DD, L25, L29DD G8 M3 L1–2, L2DD, L3–4, L6DD, L9, L9DD, L10, L10DD, L18DD, L20, L20DD, L21, L21DD, L22DD, L23, L24DD, L30DD				
	Text Features	8.RL.1.C Interpret visual elements of a text and draw conclusions from them (when applicable).	G8 M1 L10–11 G8 M3 L7, L14, L16				
	Summarize/ Theme	8.RL.1.D Using appropriate text, determine the theme(s) of a text and analyze its development over the course of a text; provide an objective summary of the text.	G8 M1 L1-8, L10, L13, L13DD, L14-16, L18-19, L21, L29, L29DD G8 M2 L8-10, L13-15, L17-20, L22-30, L33-34, L36 G8 M3 L2-11, L17, L20-27, L29-34, L36				
Analyze Craft and Structure (Approaching Texts as a Writer)	Structure	8.RL.2.A Analyze how an author's choice concerning a text's form or overall structure contributes to meaning.	G8 M1 L1, L3, L5, L8, L10–11, L13–14, L16–17, L21 G8 M2 L24				

	Strand: Reading Literary Texts					
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom			
	Point of View	8.RL.2.B Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader create dramatic irony.	G8 M3 L19, L21–22, L29			
	Craft and Meaning	8.RL.2.C Analyze how specific word choices and sentence structures contribute to meaning and tone.	G8 M1 L2-3, L10-11, L14-16, L24DD, L29 G8 M2 L8, L10-11, L14-15, L17, L19-20, L22-23, L25, L29-30 G8 M3 L4, L6, L8-9, L20, L24DD, L28-29			
	Interaction and Meaning	8.RL.2.D Analyze how literary devices are used to develop setting, reveal character, advance the plot, and contribute to meaning.	G8 M1 L5, L7DD, L14, L21DD, L29 G8 M2 L8, L11, L17, L20, L22–23, L29–30 G8 M3 L2–4, L4DD, L6–7, L9–10, L20–22			
Synthesize Ideas from Multiple Texts (Approaching Texts as a Researcher)	Text in Forms	8.RL.3.A Analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.	G8 M2 L21–22, L25–26 G8 M3 L18			
	Relationships in Texts	8.RL.3.B Explain how contemporary texts make use of archetypal characters or universal themes from older or traditional texts.	G8 M3 L24-27			
	Historical Context	8.RL.3.C Explain how themes reflect historical and/or cultural contexts.	G8 M2 L17			

Strand: Reading Literary Texts					
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation		Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom	
	Comprehension	8.RL.3.D Read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, independently and proficiently.		G8 M1–4 Wit & Wisdom considers this standard a Continuing Standard. Because it is fundamental to the learning design, it is addressed continually across all lessons and modules.	
		Strand: Reading Informative	T	exts	
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation		Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom	
Comprehend and Interpret Texts (Approaching Texts as a Reader)	Evidence/ Inference	8.RI.1.A Draw conclusions, infer, and analyze by citing the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.		G8 M1 L11–12, L25–27 G8 M2 L3–4, L12, L33–34 G8 M4 L1, L3–11, L13–20	
	Word Meanings	8.RI.1.B Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and content-specific meanings using context, affixes, or reference materials.		G8 M1 L12, L12DD, L13DD, L23, L27DD, L32DD, L33DD G8 M2 L2DD, L3-4, L4DD, L12, L12DD, L29DD, L31-32 G8 M3 L12DD, L14, L14DD, L15DD G8 M4 L3DD, L5, L10, L10DD, L13, L15DD, L17, L17DD, L18, L19DD, L20DD, L21	
	Text Features	8.RI.1.C Interpret visual elements of a text including those from different media and draw conclusions from them (when applicable).		G8 M4 L1, L6	

	Strand: Reading Informative Texts					
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom			
	Summarize/ Claim	8.RI.1.D Explain the central/main idea(s) of a text and analyze its development over the course of a text; provide an objective summary of the text.	G8 M1 L11–12, L23–28, L30 G8 M2 L1–5, L12, L31–34 G8 M3 L13, L15–17 G8 M4 L3–6, L10, L12–23			
Analyze Craft and Structure (Approaching Texts as a	Structure	8.RI.2.A Analyze how an author's choice concerning a text's organization or overall structure contributes to meaning.	G8 M1 L11 G8 M4 L1, L14, L19			
Writer)	Point of View	8.RI.2.B Analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or points of view in a text.	G8 M4 L11, L16			
	Craft and Meaning	8.RI.2.C Analyze how word choice and sentence structure contribute to meaning and tone.	G8 M1 L11, L23DD, L25 G8 M2 L1, L32 G8 M3 L12–13 G8 M4 L1–3, L5, L7, L11, L27DD			

Strand: Reading Informative Texts					
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisd		
	Argument/ Evidence	8.RI.2.D Evaluate an author's argument, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.		G8 M3 L13–16 G8 M4 L20, L23	
Synthesize Ideas from Multiple Texts (Approaching Texts as a Researcher)	Texts/Forms	8.RI.3.A Compare and contrast information presented in different mediums and analyze how the techniques unique to each medium contribute to meaning.		G8 M2 L21–22, L25–26, L34 G8 M3 L18	
	Relationships/ Texts	8.RI.3.B Analyze two or more texts that provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matter of fact or interpretation.		G8 M4 L23	
	Historical Context	8.RI.3.C Explain how the central ideas of text reflect historical and/or cultural contexts.		G8 M2 L3-4 G8 M4 L4, L6, L14, L17	
	Comprehension	8.RI.3.D Read and comprehend informational text independently and proficiently.		G8 M1–4 Wit & Wisdom considers this standard a Continuing Standard. Because it is fundamental to the learning design, it is addressed continually across all lessons and modules.	

	Strand: Writing					
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation		Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom		
Approaching the Task as a Researcher	Research	8.W.1.A Conduct research to answer a question (including a self-generated question); gather relevant, credible sources, print and digital; integrate information using a standard citation system.		G8 M2 L1 G8 M3 L1, L8 G8 M4 L5, L13, L25		
		8.W.1.A Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.		G8 M2 L1 G8 M3 L1, L8 G8 M4 L5, L13, L15–16, L24–25		
Approaching the Task as a Writer	Development			erent writing in which the development, organization, se, and audience; develop writing with narrative,		
		a. Narrative: Develop narratives including poems about real or imagined experiences which establish and maintain a consistent point of view and include clearly identified characters, well-structured event sequences, narrative techniques, and relevant descriptive details.		G8 M1 L5–8, L10–11, L13, L17, L21, L31 G8 M2 L3, L14, L16		
		b. Expository: Develop informative/ explanatory writing to examine a topic with relevant facts, examples, and details; establish relationships between ideas and supporting evidence.		G8 M1 L16, L28 G8 M2 L5, L15, L32, L35–37 G8 M3 L8, L16, L27		

		Strand: Writing	
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
		c. Argumentative: Develop argumentative writing by introducing and supporting a claim with clear reasons and relevant evidence; acknowledging counterclaims; and establishing relationships among claims, counterclaims, and supporting evidence.	G8 M3 L4, L8-9, L17, L19-20, L22, L31, L33, L35
Approaching	Revise and Edit	8.W.3.A	
the Task as a		Review, revise, and edit writing with considerat	ion for the task, purpose, and audience.
Reader		a. Organization and content: Introduce the topic, maintain a clear focus throughout the text, and provide a conclusion that follows from the text. Add or delete content and change organization to achieve the writer's purpose.	G8 M1 L32 G8 M2 L25–26, L32, L36–37 G8 M3 L30–31, L35–36
		b. Word choice, syntax, and style: Choose precise language and make syntactical choices appropriate for the style, task, and audience.	G8 M1 L32 G8 M2 L5 G8 M3 L36
		c. Conventions of standard English and usage: Demonstrate a command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage, including spelling and punctuation.	G8 M2 L31DD, L32DD, L33DD, L37DD G8 M3 L1DD, L3DD, L5DD, L30DD, L31, L31DD, L32DD, L35DD, L36DD
		d. Use a variety of appropriate transitions to clarify relationships, connect ideas and claims, and signal time shifts.	G8 M2 L13, L36–37 G8 M3 L19, L22, L31, L36
		e. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing, present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently, and interact and collaborate with others.	G8 M4 L32

	Strand: Speaking and Listening					
Big Idea	Concept	Expectation	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom			
Collaborating	Conversations	8.SL.1.A Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.	G8 M2 L24, L33 G8 M3 L11, L34			
	Questioning	8.SL.1.B Delineate a speaker's argument and claims, evaluating reasoning and sufficiency of evidence in order to pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.	G8 M3 L9, L11, L17, L32, L34			
	Viewpoints of Others	8.SL.1.C Acknowledge new information expressed by others including those presented in diverse media and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of evidence presented.	Wit & Wisdom addresses acknowledging new information expressed by others and qualifying or justifying views when warranted in Grade 7. G7 M4 L31			
Presenting	Verbal Delivery	8.SL.2.A Speak audibly and to the point, using conventions of language as appropriate to task, purpose, and audience when presenting including appropriate volume, clear articulation, and accurate pronunciation at an understandable pace.	G8 M1 L6, L11, L17, L19–23, L33 G8 M2 L1, L5, L7, L12, L18, L27, L30 G8 M3 L15, L22, L28 G8 M4 L6, L11, L18–19, L22–23, L31			
	Nonverbal	8.SL.2.B Make consistent eye contact with a range of listeners when speaking using effective gestures to communicate a clear viewpoint and engage listeners.	G8 M1 L21–23, L33			

Strand: Speaking and Listening					
Big Idea	Concept Expectation		Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdo		
	Multimedia	8.SL.2.C		G8 M1 L19–23, L33	
		Plan and deliver appropriate presentations based on the task, audience, and purpose integrating multimedia into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.		G8 M4 L9, L29–32	