



What is *Wit & Wisdom*?

Wit & Wisdom[®] is a comprehensive K–8 curriculum that approaches English language arts instruction holistically. Developed by our expert team of teacher–writers, the curriculum features knowledge-building lessons and carefully curated selections of art and books that inspire in students a passion for reading and writing.

BUILDING SKILLS WHILE FOSTERING KNOWLEDGE BUILDING

SUPPORTED BY THE SCIENCE OF READING

Through a rigorous learning design based on Scarborough’s Rope, students gain content knowledge and an awareness of how to read texts, write, speak, and listen.

A FOCUS ON DEPTH, NOT BREADTH

Students dig deep into each module’s topic, exploring literacy, informational, and fine arts genres to create layers of knowledge that they will build on across lessons.

READING INFORMATION-RICH BOOKS, NOT BASALS

Wit & Wisdom students engage with complex, grade-level books, from the classics to newer works of literature. These texts are used at every turn to help students master essential ELA skills.

LEARNING WITH *WIT & WISDOM*

Inquiry Based

Students learn to read complex texts by using a sequence of five Content Stages—**Wonder, Organize, Reveal, Distill, and Know**—that provide a flexible yet predictable process for accessing, understanding, and analyzing complex texts.

Fine Art

Students engage with significant works of art, including paintings, illustrations, prints, sculpture, architecture, and photographs that provide diverse access points to a topic so learners at all levels can build strong literary skills.

Social-Emotional Learning

Wit & Wisdom embraces texts and instruction that build empathy, self-awareness, and responsible decision-making through the development of the five social-emotional competencies identified by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning.



Curriculum Components

Every element of *Wit & Wisdom* serves a specific purpose in helping teachers facilitate student-driven learning in and out of the classroom.

- **Teacher Edition**
- **Student Edition**
- **Assessment Pack**
- **Multilingual Learner Resources for Grades K–5**
- ***Wit & Wisdom Prologue*[™] for Grades 6–8**
- **Teacher Resource Pack**
- **Core Texts**
- **Grade-Level Support Videos**

Lesson Structure

Lessons have a consistent structure that supports student learning and teacher implementation. The curriculum's four Craft Stages—**Examine, Experiment, Execute, and Excel**—help frame speaking and listening instruction and practice. Lessons unfold in the following sequence:

Welcome: Students independently engage in a task to prepare for the lesson's learning.

Launch: The teacher introduces the lesson's Content Framing Question and Learning Goals.

Learn: With varied instructional routines and tasks, teachers support students in productive struggle as they develop the knowledge and skills needed to answer the Content Framing Question.

Land: Students reflect on their learning and answer a form of the Content Framing Question.

Wrap: The teacher directs closing activities and assigns homework. Homework often includes a fluency assignment, in which students practice reading a key text passage at home.



“Students are learning for themselves, discovering, and growing. They are digging in, talking, and writing so much more. We never had so much excitement about literacy instruction.”

—SARAH S., ROGERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AK

Pacing

Module 0: A brief introductory module that orients students and teachers to *Wit & Wisdom*'s key components and features

- One Module 0 per grade band: K–2, 3–5, and 6–8
- Six 50-minute lessons per Module 0

Modules 1–4: Four complete modules, or units of study, per academic year for Grades K–8

- 30–38 lessons per module
- One 90-minute lesson per day

Supporting Multilingual Learners

Wit & Wisdom includes robust supports that enhance learning and instruction for multilingual learners. These supports include:

- Multilingual Learner Resources for Grades K–5 with lesson-specific supports for reading, writing, language, speaking, and listening instruction
- *Wit & Wisdom Prologue™* for Grades 6–8 which front-loads key language and content from specific *Wit & Wisdom* lessons
- Materials for Multilingual Learners and Their Families, including multilingual glossaries, Family Tip Sheets in different languages, and more

Learning Support for Students and Educators

Wit & Wisdom also includes built-in supports for educators as well as additional options like:

- Professional development and personalized coaching
- The Great Minds Humanities Video Library with free introductory content about the curriculum and our professional learning offerings
- *Wit & Wisdom Affirm®* for digital assessment
- *Wit & Wisdom in Sync™* for flexible learning
- *Geodes®* books for decoding practice aligned with the science of reading

