Curriculum Laboratory
Language Arts Teaching Materials

For further assistance using any of the resources in the Lab, please ask at the Curriculum Lab Information Services Desk. Visit our site through U of L Library's main page http://www.uleth.ca/lib.

1) DEFINE YOUR TOPIC AND CHECK BASIC RESOURCES

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DEFINE YOUR TOPIC AND CHECK BASIC SOURCES

Educational Dictionaries and Encyclopedias may assist you in defining your educational terms. There are several behind the Curriculum Laboratory Information Desk.

Check E-Reference under “Basic Search Sites” on the Curriculum Laboratory Main Page. Select “Education” from the subject menu.

According to Alberta Education's Program of Studies for English Language Arts, "students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent" to achieve these 5 general outcomes:

- explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences,
- comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print and other media texts,
- manage ideas and information,
- enhance the clarity and artistry of communication, and
- respect, support and collaborate with others.

GET RELEVANT CURRICULUM PUBLICATIONS

Alberta Education’s Programs of Study mandate what must be taught in Alberta schools. They serve as a starting point for all investigations of the Alberta school curriculum. All Programs of Study for each subject and grade are available in print (See the 375 section of the Curriculum Laboratory), as well as online.

Core Curriculum Documents (e.g. guides to implementation, illustrative examples, teacher resource manuals, curriculum guides, etc.) give teachers ideas on how to teach the learning expectations and outcomes mandated in the Programs of Studies. Older core curriculum documents are found in print only. They are shelved in the 375 section of the Curriculum Laboratory under the specific subjects (375 Art, 375 Math, 375 PhysEd. etc).
The Curriculum Publications Chart is posted on the ends of the Curriculum Publications library shelves and can guide you through the types of available curriculum documents for each subject http://www.uleth.ca/edu/currlab/handoutsnew/currchart09.pdf.

For an overview of all types of curriculum publications see "What Are Curriculum Publications", found on our web page under "Handouts."

"Curriculum In a Nutshell," found on the web page under "Handouts," provides a brief overview of the main online curriculum resources. Alberta Education's Programs of Study mandate what must be taught in Alberta schools. They serve as a starting point for all investigations of the Alberta school curriculum. All Programs of Study for each subject and grade are available in print (See the 375 section of the Curriculum Laboratory), as well as online.

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IN PRINT: The General Program of Studies for Elementary, Junior High or Senior High School includes all subjects/grades and can be found in large binders in the Curriculum Laboratory. Multiple copies are found in the 375 Gen section. If any of the core documents are shelved in a separate location, a purple sheet will direct you.

ONLINE: Visit Alberta Education's “Teachers” tab. The "programs of study" link will lead you to a list of subjects taught in Alberta. To view the core curriculum documents (support material, as defined above) for that subject, select "learning and teaching resources".

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English Language Arts is covered in Alberta Education's curriculum publications in these places:

- Elementary and Junior High Program of Studies -- covers what must be taught in Alberta schools for English Language Arts. (375 General Alta. Gr.1-6, Gr. 7-9) The Senior High School English Language Arts curriculum is located in a separate Program of Studies. (375 LangArt Alta. Gr.10-12)
- Illustrative Examples for English Language Arts: Kindergarten to Grade 9 -- provides practical assistance for teachers in implementing the Program of Studies outcomes. According to the preface of this document (2000), "The illustrative examples are not prescribed, but they support the program of studies by indicating some of the ways in which students can demonstrate specific outcomes at each grade level." (375 LangArt Alta. Gr.EC-9)
- Senior High School English Language Arts Guide to Implementation (2003) -- provides assistance for teachers in "planning for assessment and instruction that supports student achievement for the prescribed learning outcomes. It also provides suggestions for monitoring student progress in achieving the outcomes." (375 LangArt Alta. Gr.10-12)
- The Common Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts: Kindergarten to Grade 12 / Western Canadian Protocol for Collaboration in Basic Education (1998) -- this common English Language Arts program of studies was agreed upon, and used in the four western provinces and two territories. Alberta's program of studies, listed above, was derived from this document and differs slightly in wording. (375 LangArt West Gr.EC-12)
- The following two handbooks have been produced by Alberta Education to explain the basic concepts in spelling, grammar, punctuation, locating information, literary elements and devices, handwriting, as well as the six parts of Language Arts (listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and representing) :
  - English Language Arts Skills Handbook (375 LangArt Alta. Gr.1-6)
  - English Language Arts Handbook for Secondary Students (375 LangArt Alta. Gr.7-12)

Additional material can be found online in the Program of Study for Language Arts (Learning and Teaching Resources section).
FIND BASIC AND SUPPORT RESOURCES
RECOMMENDED BY ALBERTA EDUCATION

IN PRINT:

Alberta Education maintains an **Authorized Resources Database**. Resources are available in three categories:

- **Student Basic**: Comprehensive resource that covers most objectives (i.e. textbook).
- **Student Support**: Covers one or some of the topics for that grade/subject.
- **Teaching**: Supports evaluation and implementation & is intended for teachers.

A link to the **Resource Database** is found under **Basic Sites** on the upper right of the Curriculum Laboratory main webpage.

**Searching for recommended resources**: You can choose “Authorization Status”, depending on whether you want **Basic**, **Support** or **Teaching** Resources.

The Curriculum Laboratory orders almost all of these resources from the LRC (Learning Resources Center). You can search to see if we have them in the Library Catalogue.

Often reading and language arts resources are published as basal series, which are commercial reading or language arts textbooks compiled by many authors working under a senior textbook editor. The resources are arranged in a series which is systematically sequenced through a number of grades, and contain anthologies and/ or actual literature. The core resources for language arts tend to come in multiple formats, which reflects the emphasis in the curriculum on communicating using the six language arts: listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing.

The following list is a small sample of some of basal series resources for English Language arts.

- **Grades ECE to three**: Another Point of View (372.6 Ano)
- **Grades one to six**: Collections (372.6 Col)
- **Grades two to six**:
  - Nelson Language Arts (372.6 Nel)
  - Gage Cornerstones: Canadian Language Arts (372.6 Gag)
- **Grades seven to nine**:
  - Crossroads (810.8 Cro)
  - Identities (808.8 Ide)
  - In Context (810.8 In)
  - Issues Collection (808.042 Iss)
  - MultiSource (808.8 Mul)
  - Nelson Language and Writing (808.042 Ake)
  - ResourceLines & Language Works (808.8 Pre)
  - SightLines (808.8 Pre)
- **Grade ten (10-1 and 10-2)**
  - Crossroads (10-1, 10-2) (Gage) 810.8 Cro Gr.10
  - Departures: Reflections in Poetry (10-2) (Nelson) 811.5 Dep Gr.10
  - Harcourt Shakespeare Series (10-1, 10-2) (Harcourt Canada) 822.33 Roy Gr.10
  - Inside Essays I (10-1) (Harcourt Brace) 814.54 Ins Gr.10
  - Inside Stories I (2nd ed.,)10-1) (HBJ) 808.83 Ins Gr.10
  - Literature & Media 10 (10-1, 10-2) (Nelson) 810.8 And Gr.10
  - Mythic Voices: Reflections in Mythology (10-1) (Nelson) 398.2 Myt Gr.10
  - On Cue 1 (10-2) (Harcourt Brace) 812.54 Eat Gr.10
  - On Stage One (10-1) (Prentice Hall) 808.82 On Gr.10-12
  - Oxford School Shakespeare Series (10-1, 10-2) (Oxford) 822.33 Sha Gr.10
  - Poetry In Focus (10-1) (Prentice-Hall) 808.81 Poe Gr.10
  - Reader Writes the Story: Canadian and World Short Fiction, The (10-1) (Prentice-Hall) 813.54 Cha Gr.10
  - ResourceLines 9/10 (10-1, 10-2) (Prentice Hall Ginn) 808.8 Pre Gr.10
  - SightLines 10 (10-1, 10-2) (Prentice Hall Ginn) 808.8 Pre Gr.10
  - Viewpoints: Reflections in Non-Fiction (10-2) (Nelson) 808.8 Ref Gr.10
- **Grade eleven (20-1 and 20-2)**:
ONLINE:

Find a wealth of curriculum-related information through Alberta Education’s LearnAlberta.ca* (including audiovisual clips, lesson plans, games, experiments etc.)

Click on “Programs of Study” to find resources for a specific outcome. Browse through the learner outcomes and look for these symbols:

- Backpack symbol = student resource
- Apple symbol = teacher resource or lesson plan

*You will need a username and password. Refer to the “Digital Resources Subscriptions Passwords” handout distributed in PS I and PSII.

Click on “Online Resource Centre” to find subscription sources that give related content or can be used for student-led research (eg. Encyclopedias, interactive books, atlases)
The Online Resource Centre at www.learnalberta.ca includes several relevant subscription sources:

**Proquest Learning Literature (Grades 9-12).** Use this database to find full-text works of poetry, prose and drama from around the world, author biographies, literary criticism, essays, reviews, genre study pages, audio and video clips, images and Web links.

**Teaching Books.net (Gr. K-12)** Use this resource to locate information on how authors and illustrators write and illustrate their books, as well as links to author Web sites and audio book readings. Coverage includes graphic novels, picture books, historical fiction, adventure stories, mysteries, science fiction, poetry, and non-fiction.

**Opposing Viewpoints in Context (Gr. 7-12)** Use this database to find information on current and controversial social issues for use in research assignments, persuasive essays and debates. It contains full-text magazine, journal and newspaper articles, primary documents, images, podcasts, multimedia, Web links, charts and statistics.

### FIND RELATED ASSESSMENT MATERIALS

#### IN PRINT:
- Check the titles you have already located (in step 3). Many teaching materials include a section on evaluation.
- Look up the title in the catalogue to see if there are additional assessment volumes.
- For textbooks, check the teacher’s manual (or the additional volumes) for assessment materials.

#### ONLINE:
- Visit The Alberta Assessment Consortium (AAC)* for assessment foundations, materials, unit plans, assessment templates, performance assessments etc.
  
  *You will need a username and password. Refer to the “Digital Resources Subscriptions Passwords” handout distributed in PS I and PSII.

  Review our handout on Evaluation of Students, found in the “Handouts” section of the Curriculum Laboratory’s main page.


Search the library catalogue for practical materials to support language arts assessment. Try the following searches, and limit your to search to “U of L Curriculum Laboratory” (Modify search option will come up on results page). Suggested keyword searches: Language arts assessment, language arts evaluation, language arts testing, writing evaluation.

### SEARCH THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE

- Use the library catalogue to find other teaching materials:
  - fiction and picture books
  - eBooks
  - non-fiction books for K-12
  - manipulatives and interactive kits
  - maps, posters, audio sets
  - DVDs
  - books with teaching ideas

Hint: Limit your search to U of L Curriculum Laboratory for practical teaching material by using the “Modify Search” option at the top of the results page or using the “Advanced Search”.
The following search terms will lead you to frequently used Language Arts resources:

- reading primary
- reading secondary
- reading remedial teaching
- high interest low vocabulary
- grammar
- [topic] fiction (eg. bears fiction, world war II fiction, families fiction)
- picture books
- fiction study and teaching (To find novel studies. Add a specific title such as “Charlotte’s Web” if applicable)
- storytelling
- Edmonton public schools novel study
- Edmonton public schools language arts

**BROWSE THE SHELVES**

Get familiar with the Dewey Decimal numbers (000-999) for your subjects of interest. Once you know the numbers, you can also use them to browse in a school library. Find lists of relevant Dewey numbers on the [Specific School Subject Handouts](#).

Signs on the ends of the Curriculum Lab’s shelves break down the Dewey Decimal System into its broad categories.

You will find English language arts materials in the following sections:

- Fiction section and paperback racks -- Here is where you will find most, but not all, of the fiction materials. They are arranged by the author’s last name, with all the age levels of material (from preschool to grade 12) integrated.
- 011.62 -- Literature bibliographies
- 372.4 -- Elementary reading study and teaching
- 372.41 -- reading readiness instruction
- 372.43 -- remedial reading instruction
- 372.465 -- reading phonetic method
- 372.6 -- Elementary language arts study and teaching (Including textbooks)
- 372.61 -- grammar
- 372.62 -- writing
- 372.632 -- spelling
- 372.634 -- handwriting
- 372.64 -- literature appreciation
- 372.66 -- drama
- 372.67 -- speaking
- 398.2 -- Folklore
- 420 -- English language
- 421.1 -- alphabet books
- 423 -- dictionaries
- 428 -- English language grammar and vocabulary
- 808 -- Secondary language arts study and teaching (Including textbooks)
- 808.02 -- authorship, report writing
- 808.042 -- textbooks
- 808.1 -- writing poetry
- 808.2 -- writing drama
- 808.3 -- writing fiction
- 808.5 -- speaking
- 808.6 -- letter writing
- 808.8 -- secondary readers
• 808.81 poetry collections
• 808.82--drama collections
• 808.83--short story collections
• 808.88--miscellaneous collections
• 810s -- North American literature
• 810.16 -- literature bibliographies
• 810.8 -- literature collections
• 811 -- poetry
• 812 -- drama
• 813 -- fiction
• 813.5--fiction study and teaching (novel studies)
• 814 -- essays
• 817 -- humor
• 818 -- miscellaneous
• 820s -- English literature
• 822.33 -- Shakespeare, William

SEARCH THE INTERNET

Use our Great Sites link (found on our main page) to access a wealth of invaluable teaching resources:

- Digital Resource Subscriptions, including:
  - Reading activities and support materials
  - Audio and video clips with lesson plans and teacher guide
  - Career planning tools for students
  - Worksheet libraries
  - Assessment tools

- Teacher’s sites: lists many of the main Internet sites used by teachers.
- Lesson Plans
- Specific School Subject websites

Find a huge selection of outstanding language arts teaching resources on our Digital Resources page (Learn Alberta.ca and Literature Databases).

The Children's And Young Adult Literature section of our main web page contains links to sites arranged into these categories: Reviews, Pathfinders, Awards, Wigham Family Collection, Literature Finding Sites, Author and Illustrator Sites, and eBooks.

For additional guides on locating literature-related resources and using literature across the curriculum, the Curriculum Lab’s handouts section includes Literature Handouts and Children's Literature Across the Curriculum (Teaching Ideas Showcase).
SEARCH FOR EDUCATION ARTICLES

If you are not finding what you need in curriculum documents, books, www.learnalberta.ca, or recommended websites, consider searching for articles. Beside the “Find Articles” tab on the library homepage, click on the “Databases by subject” tab and scroll to “Education”. These databases are a great place to start:

- **ERIC**: the world's largest source of information on educational research and practice.
- **ERIC Digests.org**: short reports which give a brief overview of any educational topic or issue.
- **CBCA Complete**: An interdisciplinary database providing access to the principal literature published in Canada, including education.
- **ProQuest Education Journals** or **Academic Search Complete**

The following databases are useful for Language Arts instruction and can be found by title on the Library’s main page:

- **Global Books-in-Print**: It provides bibliographic data and price information for English language books worldwide, as well as books in other languages. Both in-print and out-of-print books, audio books and videos are included. It includes annotations from publishers and the full text of book reviews from select sources. It also includes biographies on many authors. Using the advanced search feature you can search by keyword, author, keyword and title, ISBN, exact title, publisher name, publication year, and by other search criteria.
- **Book Review Index Plus**: Search for reviews on books, periodicals, books on tape and electronic media. Indexes thousands of publications including journals, magazines and newspapers. Includes full text reviews.
- **Gale Literary Index** allows you to search by author or title to find your topic in this exceptionally helpful literature criticism series. Once you figure out which volume you require, use the library catalogue to find out the call number in the Reference collection.

OTHER RESOURCES

- **LethSD Ed. Links**: Browse by grade level or search by keyword from hundreds of websites recommended by Lethbridge School Division.
- **Other School Jurisdictions** with links to their web pages.
- **Community resources**: such as libraries, associations, businesses, museums, guest speakers, etc.

Still have questions and/or need more resources?: Ask a virtual question through the **Comments and Questions** link on the curriculum laboratory’s **Home Page**.

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