

# 8th Grade Essentials

## Language Arts - Reading

- ✓ Establishes purpose for reading and applies specific reading strategies accordingly
- ✓ Self-monitors comprehension using background knowledge, previewing, predicting, questioning, visualization, rereading, and engaging in interpretive discussions.
- ✓ Applies knowledge of word origins, derivations, inflections, and analogies to extend vocabulary development
- ✓ Uses context, structure, and connotations to determine meaning of words and phrases
- ✓ Analyzes mass media messages
- ✓ Reads a variety of literary works, representing a broad spectrum of culture and genres
- ✓ Explains the influence of culture and history on the form, style, and point of view of a literary selection
- ✓ Analyzes an author's use of literary devices
- ✓ Uses story elements in understand texts
- ✓ Analyzes an author's intent to affect plot and theme through the explicit and implicit traits and motives of a character's thoughts, words, and actions

## **Language Arts - Writing**

- ✓ Uses planning strategies to generate and organize ideas and details to elaborate on a central theme
- ✓ Creates cohesive narrative writing that conveys a clear focus that considers purpose and audience
- ✓ Creates cohesive persuasive writing that conveys a clear focus that considers purpose and audience
- ✓ Creates cohesive functional writing that conveys a clear focus that considers purpose and audience
- ✓ Creates cohesive and coherent multiple paragraph essays across a variety of genres
- ✓ Employs elements of composing and revising techniques to publish
- ✓ Uses standard grammatical structures related to singular and objective references in writing
- ✓ Uses and correctly punctuates varied sentence structures to include conjunctions and transition words
- ✓ Uses comparative and superlative degrees in adverbs and adjectives
- ✓ Analyzes and employs conventions of capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and paragraphing in written work
- ✓ Proofreads and edits for mechanics and conventions
- ✓ Develops a formal persuasive piece of writing with a clearly articulated defense