

**Colorado Model Content Standards for Reading and Writing
correlated to
Merit Software Reading Comprehension Intermediate Programs**

The ability to communicate clearly -- to read, write, speak, and listen -- forms the core of human culture. Reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills are essential tools for learning, for success in the workplace, for enriching and expanding our lives, and for responsible citizenship. Language skills are particularly critical in the area of education. Through language abilities, students understand the academic content areas. Success in learning is grounded in students acquiring solid knowledge and skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The Colorado Model Content Standards set high expectations in these areas for all students.

Merit’s Reading Comprehension Intermediate programs address the following Colorado Model Content Standards for Reading and Writing:

- Grade 6 pg. 1-2
- Grade 7 pg. 3-4
- Grade 8 pg. 4-6

Grade 6

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• paraphrase, summarize, and synthesize information from a variety of text and genres;	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• identify main idea and supporting details in a variety of text and genres;	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• infer and predict using information in a variety of text and genres;	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1

Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitor own comprehension and make modifications when understanding breaks down by rereading a portion, using reference aids, and using contextual information; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use word recognition skills to understand unfamiliar words (for example, letter-sound correspondence, language structures, and context); 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • predict and draw conclusions about stories; 	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • differentiate between fact and opinion in written and spoken forms; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, respond to, and discuss a variety of novels, poetry, short stories, non-fiction, and plays; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, respond to, and discuss literature that represents points of view from places, people, and events that are familiar and unfamiliar; 	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and analyze elements of plot and characterization; 	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and analyze characters, setting, problem/conflict, action/plot/events, resolution/solution, theme, mood/tone/atmosphere, and sequence in literature. 	Literature Based Reading Series 1

Grade 7

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> determine the main idea or essential message in a text; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> make reasonable inferences from information that is implied but not directly stated; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> infer by making connections between separated sections of a text; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> find support in the text for main ideas; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use word recognition skills to comprehend text (for example, roots, prefixes, and suffixes). 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognize an author's or speaker's point of view and purpose; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1

Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	• distinguish between fact and opinion;	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	• make predictions, draw conclusions, and analyze what they read, hear, and view.	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	• read, respond to, and discuss a variety of novels, poetry, short stories, non-fiction, and plays;	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	• read, respond to, and discuss literature that represents points of view from places, people, and events that are familiar and unfamiliar;	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	• use literature terminology accurately, including setting, character, conflict, plot, resolution, dialect, and point of view;	Literature Based Reading Series 1

Grade 8

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• use a full range of strategies to comprehend technical writing, newspapers, magazines, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels;	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2

Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> paraphrase, summarize, synthesize, and evaluate information from a variety of text and genres 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify main idea and supporting details in a variety of text and genres; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> infer and predict using information in a variety of text and genres; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> monitor own comprehension and make modifications when understanding breaks down by reading a portion, using reference aids, and searching for clues; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> confirm meaning of figurative, idiomatic, and technological language using context clues; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2

Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply knowledge of letter-sound correspondence, language structures, and context to recognize words; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognize an author's or speaker's point of view and purpose; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distinguish between fact and opinion; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make predictions, draw conclusions, and analyze what they read, hear, and view. 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, respond to, and discuss a variety of novels, poetry, short stories, non-fiction, content-area and technical material, and plays; 	Reading Shape Up Set 2, Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 2-3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 2-3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, respond to, and discuss literature that represents points of view from places, people, and events that are familiar and unfamiliar; 	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use literature terminology accurately, including setting, character, conflict, plot, resolution, dialect, and point of view; 	Literature Based Reading Series 2