

**Illinois Learning Standards
correlated to
Merit Software Reading Comprehension Intermediate Programs**

The *Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts* goals and standards have not changed since their adoption in 1997. Through the achievement of these goals and standards, students will gain proficiency in the language skills that are basic to all learning, critical to success in the workplace and essential to life as productive citizens. English language arts includes reading, writing, speaking, listening and the study of literature. Through the study of the English language arts, students should be able to read fluently, understanding a broad range of written materials. They must be able to communicate well and listen carefully and effectively. They should develop a command of the language and demonstrate their knowledge through speaking and writing for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Merit’s Reading Comprehension Intermediate programs address the following Illinois Learning standards:

Grades 6-8

Subhead	State Goal	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	A. Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.	1.A.3b Analyze the meaning of words and phrases in their context.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 1-2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 1-2, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Sets 1-2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.3c Continuously check and clarify for understanding (e.g., in addition to previous skills, draw comparisons to other readings).	Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 1-2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 1-2, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Sets 1-2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.3d Read age-appropriate material with fluency and accuracy.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 1-2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 1-2, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Sets 1-2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	C. Comprehend a broad range of reading materials.	1.C.3d Summarize and make generalizations from content and relate them to the purpose of the material.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 1-2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 1-2, Real World Reading Skills Set 2, Literature Based Reading Sets 1-2

Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	A. Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.	2.A.3b Describe how the development of theme, character, plot and setting contribute to the overall impact of a piece of literature.	Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	B. Read and interpret a variety of literary works.	2.B.3c Analyze how characters in literature deal with conflict, solve problems and relate to real-life situations.	Literature Based Reading Series 1-2