

**North Carolina State Standards
correlated to
Merit Software Reading Comprehension Intermediate Programs**

The revised curriculum (1999) is based upon surveys of the effectiveness of the previous curriculum, current educational research, and input from public school teachers, administrators, college and university faculties, parents, and business and community leaders. In addition, the revised curriculum is based on national curriculum standards developed jointly by the National Council of Teachers of English and the International Reading Association and on language arts standards developed by the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

The *North Carolina English Language Arts Standard Course of Study* clearly defines a curriculum supporting the ABC's school reform effort as well as the North Carolina Testing Program. These revisions maintain a forward focus by looking at what students will need to know and to be able to do as successful and contributing citizens in our state and nation in the years ahead.

Merit's Reading Comprehension Intermediate programs address the following North Carolina State Standards:

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

Grade 6

Subhead	Competency Goals	Objectives	Benchmarks	Merit Software
Reading	Competency Goal 2 The learner will explore and analyze information from a variety of sources.	2.01 Explore informational materials that are read, heard, and/or viewed by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restating and summarizing information. • determining the importance of information. • monitoring comprehension. • drawing inferences. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2
Reading	Competency Goal 3 The learner will examine the foundations and the use of argument.	3.01 Respond to public documents such as editorials and school or community policies that establish a position by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distinguishing between fact and opinion. 	Reading Shape Up Set 2

Reading	Competency Goal 4 The learner will use critical thinking skills and create criteria to evaluate text and multimedia.	4.02 Develop (with teacher assistance) and apply appropriate criteria to evaluate the quality of the communication by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drawing conclusions based on evidence, reasons, or relevant information. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2
Reading	Competency Goal 5 The learner will respond to various literary genres using interpretive and evaluative processes.	5.01 Increase fluency, comprehension, and insight through a meaningful and comprehensive reading program by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reading literature and other materials selected by the teacher. • interpreting text by explaining elements such as plot, theme, point of view, characterization, mood, and style. 	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Competency Goal 5 The learner will respond to various literary genres using interpretive and evaluative processes.	5.02 Study the characteristics of literary genres (fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry) through:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reading a variety of literature and other text (e.g., novels, autobiographies, myths, essays, magazines, plays, pattern poems, blank verse). • exploring what impact literary elements have on the meaning of the text such as the influence of setting or the problem and its resolution. 	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Competency Goal 6 The learner will apply conventions of grammar and language usage.	6.01 Demonstrate an understanding of conventional written and spoken expression by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary words by using context clues, a dictionary, a glossary, a thesaurus, and/or structural analysis (roots, prefixes, suffixes) of words. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1

Grade 7

Subhead	Competency Goals	Objectives	Benchmarks	Merit Software
Reading	Competency Goal 2 The learner will synthesize and use information from a variety of sources.	2.01 Respond to informational materials that are read, heard, and/or viewed by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining the importance of information. • monitoring comprehension. • drawing inferences. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2

Reading	Competency Goal 4 The learner will refine critical thinking skills and create criteria to evaluate text and multimedia.	4.02 Develop (with assistance) and apply appropriate criteria to evaluate the quality of the communication by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> drawing conclusions based on evidence, reasons, or relevant information. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Competency Goal 5 The learner will respond to various literary genres using interpretive and evaluative processes.	5.01 Increase fluency, comprehension, and insight through a meaningful and comprehensive reading program by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reading literature and other materials selected by the teacher. 	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Competency Goal 6 The learner will apply conventions of application of grammar and language usage.	6.01 Model an understanding of conventional written and spoken expression by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> determining the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary words using context clues, a dictionary, a glossary, a thesaurus, and/or structural analysis (roots, prefixes, suffixes) of words. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	Competency Goal 6 The learner will apply conventions of application of grammar and language usage.	6.01 Model an understanding of conventional written and spoken expression by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extending vocabulary knowledge by learning and using new words. 	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1

Grade 8

Subhead	Competency Goals	Objectives	Benchmarks	Merit Software
Reading	Competency Goal 2 The learner will use and evaluate information from a variety of sources.	2.01 Analyze and evaluate informational materials that are read, heard, and/or viewed by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> determining the importance of information. monitoring comprehension. drawing inferences. 	Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1
Reading	Competency Goal 4 The learner will continue to refine critical thinking skills and apply criteria to evaluate text and multimedia.	4.02 Develop (with limited assistance) and apply appropriate criteria to evaluate the quality of the communication by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> drawing conclusions based on evidence, reasons, or relevant information. 	Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2

Reading	Competency Goal 5 The learner will respond to various literary genres using interpretive and evaluative processes.	5.01 Increase fluency, comprehension, and insight through a meaningful and comprehensive reading program by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reading literature and other materials selected by the teacher. 	Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Competency Goal 6 The learner will apply conventions of grammar and language usage.	6.01 Model an understanding of conventional written and spoken expression by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> determining the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary words using context clues, a dictionary, a glossary, a thesaurus, and/or structural analysis (roots, prefixes, suffixes) of words. 	Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	Competency Goal 6 The learner will apply conventions of grammar and language usage.	6.01 Model an understanding of conventional written and spoken expression by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extending vocabulary knowledge by learning and using new words. 	Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2