

**Virginia State Standards  
correlated to  
Merit Software Reading Comprehension Intermediate Programs**

Adopted in November 2002 by the state Board of Education, the Standards of Learning set reasonable targets and expectations for what teachers need to teach and students need to learn. The standards are not intended to encompass the entire curriculum for a given grade level or course or to prescribe how the content should be taught; the standards are to be incorporated into a broader, locally designed curriculum. Teachers are encouraged to go beyond the standards and select instructional strategies and assessment methods appropriate for their students.

Merit’s Reading Comprehension Intermediate programs address the following Virginia Standards:

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

Grade 6

Subhead	Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	6.3 The student will read and learn the meanings of unfamiliar words and phrases.	Use context and sentence structure to determine meanings and differentiate among multiple meanings of words.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up 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	6.4 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Identify the elements of narrative structure, including setting, character, plot, conflict, and theme.	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	6.4 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Use information stated explicitly in the text to draw conclusions and make inferences.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up 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	6.4 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Explain how character and plot development are used in a selection to support a central conflict or story line.	Literature Based Reading Series 1

Reading	6.4 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Paraphrase and summarize the main points in the text.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up 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	6.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational selections.	Use context to determine meanings of unfamiliar words and technical vocabulary.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2
Reading	6.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational selections.	Draw conclusions and make inferences based on explicit and implied information.	Accu-Reading Set 1, Reading Shape Up Set 1, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 1, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 1, Real World Reading Skills Set 2

Grade 7

Subhead	Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	7.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Describe setting, character development, plot structure, theme, and conflict.	Literature Based Reading Series 1
Reading	7.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Draw conclusions based on explicit and implied information.	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	7.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fiction, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.	Make inferences based on explicit and implied information.	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	7.6 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational texts.	Distinguish fact from opinion in newspapers, magazines, and other print media.	Reading Shape Up Set 2

Grade 8

Subhead	Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	8.4 The student will apply knowledge of word origins, derivations, inflections, analogies, and figurative language to extend vocabulary development.	Use context, structure, and connotations to determine meaning of words and phrases.	Accu-Reading Sets 1-2, Reading Shape Up Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 2, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 1-2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1
Reading	8.5 The student will read and analyze a variety of narrative and poetic forms.	Describe inferred main ideas or themes, using evidence from the text as support.	Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	8.5 The student will read and analyze a variety of narrative and poetic forms.	Describe how authors use characters, conflict, point of view, and tone to create meaning.	Literature Based Reading Series 1-2
Reading	8.6 The student will read, comprehend, and analyze a variety of informational sources.	Read and follow instructions to complete an assigned task.	Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1
Reading	8.6 The student will read, comprehend, and analyze a variety of informational sources.	Draw conclusions based on explicit and implied 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
Reading	8.6 The student will read, comprehend, and analyze a variety of informational sources.	Make inferences based on explicit and implied 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