

**Wisconsin Reading-Language Arts State Standards
Correlated to Merit Software Reading-Language Arts Programs**

Standard A.4.1 Use effective reading strategies to achieve their purposes in reading.

Grades 3-4

By the end of **grade four**, students will:

- Use a variety of strategies and word recognition skills, including rereading, finding context clues, applying their knowledge of letter-sound relationships, and analyzing word structures

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Early Reading Booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1

- Infer the meaning of unfamiliar words in the context of a passage by examining known words, phrases and structures

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Real World Reading Skills Set 1; Book Punch; Vocabulary Fitness; Vocabulary Stretch

- Demonstrate phonemic awareness by using letter/sound relationships as aids to pronouncing and understanding unfamiliar words and text

Merit Software: Early Reading Booster

- Comprehend reading by using strategies such as activating prior knowledge, establishing purpose, self-correcting and self-monitoring, rereading, making predictions, finding context clues, developing visual images, applying knowledge of text structures, and adjusting reading rate according to purpose and difficulty

Merit Software: Early Reading Booster; Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1

- Read aloud with age-appropriate fluency, accuracy, and expression

Merit Software: Early Reading Booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Book Punch

- Discern how written texts and accompanying illustrations connect to convey meaning

Merit Software: Comprehension Booster

- Identify and use organizational features of texts, such as headings, paragraphs, and format, to improve understanding

Merit Software: Early Reading Booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1

- ☒ Identify a purpose for reading, such as gaining information, learning about a viewpoint, and appreciating literature

Merit Software: Comprehension booster; Early Reading Booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1

Standard A.4.2 Read, interpret, and critically analyze literature.

Grades 3-4

By the end of **grade four**, students will:

- ☒ Recognize and recall elements and details of story structure, such as sequence of events, character, plot, and setting, in order to reflect on meaning
- ☒ Draw upon a reservoir of reading materials, including fairy tales, fables, and narratives from the United States and cultures worldwide, to understand plots, make predictions, and relate reading to prior knowledge and experience
- ☒ Summarize ideas drawn from stories, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, interpreting events and ideas, and connecting different works to each other and to real-life experiences
- ☒ Extend the literal meaning of a text by making inferences, and evaluate the significance and validity of texts in light of prior knowledge and experience

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension Booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Book Punch

Standard A.4.3 Read and discuss literary and nonliterary texts in order to understand human experience.

Grades 3-4

By the end of **grade four**, students will:

- ☒ Demonstrate the ability to integrate general knowledge about the world and familiarity with literary and nonliterary texts when reflecting upon life's experiences
- ☒ Identify and summarize main ideas and key points from literature, informational texts, and other print and non-print sources
- ☒ Distinguish fiction from nonfiction, realistic fiction from fantasy, biography from autobiography, and poetry from prose

- Select a variety of materials to read for discovery, appreciation, and enjoyment, summarize the readings, and connect them to prior knowledge and experience

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Book Punch; Real World Reading Skills Set 1

Standard A.4.4 Read to acquire information.

Grades 3-4

By the end of **grade four**, students will:

- Summarize key details of informational texts, connecting new information to prior knowledge
- Identify a topic of interest then seek information by investigating available text resources

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension Booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Real World Reading Skills Set 1

Standard A.8.1 Use effective reading strategies to achieve their purposes in reading.

Grades 5-8

By the end of **grade eight**, students will:

- Use knowledge of sentence and word structure, word origins, visual images, and context clues to understand unfamiliar words and clarify passages of text

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Real World Reading Skills Set 1; Vocabulary Fitness; Vocabulary Stretch

- Use knowledge of the visual features of texts, such as headings and bold face print, and structures of texts, such as chronology and cause-and-effect, as aids to comprehension

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Real World Reading Skills Set 1

- Establish purposeful reading and writing habits by using texts to find information, gain understanding of diverse viewpoints, make decisions, and enjoy the experience of reading

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Real World Reading Skills Set 1; Book Punch

- ☒ Select, summarize, paraphrase, analyze, and evaluate, orally and in writing, passages of texts chosen for specific purposes

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Real World Reading Skills Set 1; Book Punch

Standard A.8.2 Read, interpret, and critically analyze literature.

Grades 5-8

By the end of **grade eight**, students will:

- ☒ Identify the defining features and structure of literary texts, such as conflict, representation of character, and point of view
- ☒ Analyze the effect of characters, plot, setting, language, topic, style, purpose, and point of view on the overall impact of literature
- ☒ Draw on a broad base of knowledge about the genres of literature, such as the structure and conventions of essays, epics, fables, myths, plays, poems, short stories, and novels, when interpreting the meaning of a literary work
- ☒ Develop criteria to evaluate literary merit and explain critical opinions about a text, either informally in conversation or formally in a well-organized speech or essay

Merit Software: Reading Comprehension booster; Reading Shape-up Set 1; Book Punch; Accu-Reading Set 1; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Effective Reading Set 1

Standard A.8.3 Read and discuss literary and nonliterary texts in order to understand human experience.

Grades 5-8

By the end of **grade eight**, students will:

- ☒ Provide interpretive responses, orally and in writing, to literary and nonliterary texts representing the diversity of American cultural heritage and cultures of the world
- ☒ Identify common historical, social, and cultural themes and issues in literary works and selected passages
- ☒ Draw on a broad base of knowledge about the themes, ideas, and insights found in classical literature while reading, interpreting, and reflecting on contemporary texts. Evaluate the themes and main ideas of a work considering its audience and purpose

Merit Software: Real World Reading Skills Set 2; Accu-Reading Set 2; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Effective Reading Set 2; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Upper Grades; Reading Shape-up, Set 2; Book Punch

Standard A.8.4 Read to acquire information.

Grades 5-8

By the end of **grade eight**, students will:

- Interpret and use technical resources such as charts, tables, travel schedules, timelines, and manuals
- Compare, contrast, and evaluate the relative accuracy and usefulness of information from different sources
- Identify and explain information, main ideas, and organization found in a variety of informational passages
- Distinguish between the facts found in documents, narratives, charts, maps, tables and other sources and the generalizations and interpretations that are drawn from them

Merit Software: Real World Reading Skills Set 2; Accu-Reading Set 1; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Effective Reading Set 1; Reading Shape-up, Set 2

Standard A.12.1 Use effective reading strategies to achieve their purposes in reading Grades 9-12

By the end of **grade twelve**, students will:

- Apply sophisticated word meaning and word analysis strategies, such as knowledge of roots, cognates, suffixes, and prefixes, to understand unfamiliar words
- Vocabulary Fitness; Vocabulary Stretch
- Gather information to help achieve understanding when the meaning of a text is unclear
- Apply knowledge of expository structures, such as the deductive or inductive development of an argument, to the comprehension and evaluation of texts
- Identify propaganda techniques and faulty reasoning in texts
- Explain and evaluate the influence of format on the readability and meaning of a text
- Distinguish between fact and opinion in nonfiction texts
- Consider the context of a work when determining the meaning of abbreviations and acronyms as well as the technical, idiomatic, and figurative meanings of term

Merit Software: Accu-Reading Set 2; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Upper Grades; Science Reading for College Prep; Social Studies Reading for College Prep; Vocabulary Super Stretch; Reading Strategies for Career Success

Standard A.12.2 Read, interpret, and critically analyze literature.

Grades 9-12

By the end of **grade twelve**, students will:

- Explain the structure of selected classical and contemporary works of literature, in whole and in part, from various cultures and historical periods, and illustrate ways in which authors use syntax, imagery, figures of speech, allusions, symbols, irony, and other devices in the context of history, culture, and style
- Draw on a broad base of knowledge about the universal themes of literature such as initiation, love and duty, heroism, illusion and reality, salvation, death and rebirth, and explain how these themes are developed in a particular work of literature
- Investigate and report on ways in which a writer has influenced or been influenced by historical, social, and cultural issues or events
- Develop, explain, and defend interpretations of complex literary works
- Explain how details of language, setting, plot, character, conflict, point of view, and voice in a work of literature combine to produce a dominant tone, effect, or theme
- Develop and apply criteria to evaluate the literary merit of unfamiliar works

Merit Software: Accu-Reading Set 2; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Upper Grades

Standard A.12.3 Read and discuss literary and nonliterary texts in order to understand human experience.

Grades 9-12

By the end of **grade twelve**, students will:

- Examine, explain, and evaluate, orally and in writing, various perspectives concerning individual, community, national, and world issues reflected in literary and nonliterary texts
- Develop and articulate, orally and in writing, defensible points of view on individual, community, national, and world issues reflected in literary and nonliterary texts
- Identify the devices an author uses to influence readers and critique the effectiveness of their use
- Identify philosophical assumptions and basic beliefs underlying selected texts

Merit Software: Accu-Reading Set 2; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Upper Grades; Book Punch; Science Reading for College Prep; Social Studies Reading for College Prep

Standard A.12.4 Students will read to acquire information.

Grades 9-12

By the end of **grade twelve**, students will:

- Apply tests of logic and reasoning to informational and persuasive texts
- Analyze and synthesize the concepts and details encountered in informational texts such as reports, technical manuals, historical papers, and government documents
- Draw on and integrate information from multiple sources when acquiring knowledge and developing a position on a topic of interest
- Evaluate the reliability and authenticity of information conveyed in a text, using criteria based on knowledge of the author, topic, and context and analysis of logic, evidence, propaganda, and language

Merit Software: Accu-Reading Set 2; Developing Critical Thinking Skills for Upper Grades; Book Punch; Science Reading for College Prep; Social Studies Reading for College Prep