English Language Arts

Language arts is a broad heading that can incorporate many subjects depending on the approach taken. It varies from one curriculum to another, but often found under language arts are phonics/reading, reading comprehension, handwriting, literature, writing and composition, grammar, listening and speaking skills, and research skills.

One important element of language arts curricula is that the skills learned early in an education (such as capitalization and punctuation rules) are continually used throughout the student’s journey. Even if the specific skills are not repeated in this scope and sequence each year, it is understood that the student is to continue to use what he or she has learned previously, reviewing as necessary.

Reading:

When possible, have your student read as many varied types of materials as he or she can. For prekindergarten and kindergarten emerging readers, creating a print-rich environment is important. Manipulating letters to sounds and sounds to words are the building blocks for reading. At this level, everything is readable—cereal boxes, signs, traditional text, names, etc.

In first-third grade, types of reading to become familiar with might include fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, folktales, fairy tales, poetry, calendars, recipes, and hymns. In 4th-5th grade, this can expand to include classic and contemporary literature, magazine articles, and newspapers. By 6th grade, readers should be exploring novels, short stories, biographies, autobiographies, plays, essays, and the classics.
Pre-Reading/Reading/Phonics

There are many approaches to teaching reading. SchoolhouseTeachers.com has taken the skills listed for K-2nd grade and assembled them in an easy-to-follow format in our Literacy Center. The Literacy Center will walk you through the steps to reading, give you simple assessments you can do for various skills, offer teaching tips and ideas, and link you to the appropriate lessons on SchoolhouseTeachers.com. Teaching Reading Through Play is also an excellent, stand-alone kindergarten course that provides key foundational skills and is especially helpful for the highly active child. Independent Morning Work for Kinders provides numerous worksheets for additional review and practice.
Pre-Reading/Reading/Phonics

Kindergarten

- Recognize and name all upper and lowercase letters (in and out of order)
- Follow words from left to right and top to bottom
- Recognize own name in print
- Recite the alphabet
- Match words that rhyme and produce more words in a word family
- Know the sound when given a letter and the letter when given the sound (for all consonants and long and short vowels)
- Match words/sentences with pictures
- Beginning phonics rules including one- and two-vowel words, consonant blends, r-controlled vowels, and plural words with -s
- Read simple words with short sequences of letters such as c-v-c (consonant-vowel-consonant) words
- Understand word families (c-at, m-at, b-at)
- Know age-appropriate sight words
- Identify beginning, ending, and middle sounds in a word

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Reading/Phonics

1st Grade

- Review of all sounds and blends learned
- Continue to build on phonics skills, learning skills such as recognizing the hard and soft c and g, silent consonants, silent e, and special phonics sounds
- Alphabetize words using the first letter only
- Learn about counting syllables
- Sound out one-syllable and two-syllable words
- Practice silent reading and reading aloud
- Identify and use contractions (such as aren’t, wasn’t, isn’t, and I’m) and convert them to their longer forms
- Know age-appropriate sight words
- Understand basic prefixes and suffixes

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com
You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Reading/Phonics

2nd Grade

- Continue to build reading fluency
- Recognize and understand synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, and compound words
- Alphabetize to the second and third letter
- Continue to build vocabulary and fluency
- Increase knowledge of sight words
- Know the meaning of common abbreviations
- Know special phonics sounds
- Increase knowledge of prefixes and suffixes

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com
You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Reading Comprehension

Kindergarten

The guidelines for kindergarten can apply to either stories your student reads independently or to stories that are read to him or her, depending on when your child begins independent reading. The main thing to do at this age is enjoy books together! Read to the student, read together (having the student read the words he or she knows), and talk about books and stories whenever you can. Some concepts to work on at this age regarding comprehension include:

- Predicting the outcome of a scene or story
- Answering questions about the story
- Putting events of the story in proper sequence
- Understanding the difference between fantasy and reality
- Identifying events, characters, and setting of a story
- Identifying the main idea of a story

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Reading Comprehension

1st Grade

- Draw conclusions based on the story
- Identify cause and effect
- Compare and contrast two elements of the story
- Identify the main characters, their traits, and their motives
- Answer questions such as who, what, where, when, and why about what they have read
- Answer true/false questions about what they have read
- Be able to orally summarize what they have read
- Know the meaning of plot, setting, characters, hero, and heroine and be able to identify them in what they have read

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Reading Comprehension

2nd Grade

- Understand and identify figurative language concepts of imagery, similes, analogies, rhyme, rhythm, repetition, alliteration, and onomatopoeia
- Identify how the main character changes during the story
- Identify the plot and point of view
- Look for the Biblical truth presented in stories
- Sharpen ability to identify cause and effect, make inferences, draw conclusions, and predict outcomes
- Begin differentiating between facts and opinions
- Find connections between a series of events, ideas, concepts, or steps in a text
- Compare and contrast different versions of the same story

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
You may also enjoy Fun with Fairy Tales, 9 lessons for 2nd-4th grade.
Reading and Reading Comprehension

3rd Grade

- Continue to build reading fluency
- Begin the practice of taking notes on selected reading
- Explain how different characters view events differently
- Explain differences between the author or character’s point of view and the reader’s
- Understand how a character’s actions contribute to or advance the plot
- Describe how parts of a story, poem, or drama build on other parts
- Compare and contrast themes or ideas in two texts about the same topic or by the same author
- Be able to alphabetize to the third or fourth letter
- Understand the difference between biography and autobiography
- Continue to sharpen ability to identify cause and effect in a story
- Continue to develop ability to make inferences, draw conclusions, and predict outcomes
- Continue to develop understanding of how to identify character motives, plot, conflict, point of view, foreshadowing, idioms, personification, metaphor, simile, humor, sarcasm, and suspense in a story or poem
- Build knowledge of rhyme, repetition, alliteration, simile, and metaphor in poetry
- Introduce the limerick and quatrain as poetic forms
- Identify the author’s purpose as to persuade, inform, or entertain

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.

You may also enjoy Fun with Fairy Tales, 9 lessons for 2nd-4th grade.

Don’t miss Lapbooking units that combine reading, writing, and critical thinking skills for multiple grade levels and the Monthly Book Lists for Families, which has book suggestions divided by grade level and topic.
Reading and Reading Comprehension

4th Grade

- Continue to practice taking notes on selected reading
- Learn to create an outline based on selected reading
- Learn about syllables—how words are divided into syllables, accent marks and shifts in accents, unstressed syllables, and syllable patterns
- Continue to sharpen ability to identify cause and effect in a story
- Continue to develop ability to make inferences, draw conclusions, and predict outcomes
- Continue to develop understanding of how to identify character motives, plot, conflict, point of view, foreshadowing, idioms, imagery, personification, metaphor, simile, humor, sarcasm, and suspense in a story or poem
- Recognize how a character changes throughout a story and what brings about this change
- Identify the mood of a story
- Learn about the use of hyperbole and exaggeration
- Introduce the haiku and sonnet as poetic forms
- Recognize dialect in a story
- Sharpen ability to distinguish fact from fiction
- Gather information from more than one source and be able to compare and contrast that information
- Learn to identify the influence the author’s background or motivation may have on the presentation of information
- Recognize key elements of various genres
- Read and identify characteristics of a tall tale, legend, and folk tale

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.

You may also enjoy Fun with Fairy Tales, 9 lessons for 2nd-4th grade.

Don’t miss Lapbooking units that combine reading, writing, and critical thinking skills for multiple grade levels and the Monthly Book Lists for Families, which has book suggestions divided by grade level and topic.
Additional Reading Resources

Ditch the Desk: stand-alone units on Jack and the Beanstalk, the Emperor’s New Clothes, and writing your own fairy tale.
Growing Readers: activities to supplement Owls in the Family and Pippi Longstocking
Adventures with Books: suggested reading lists based on a theme and related activities you can do with your family to bring the stories to life
Ditch the Desk: Test Taking—Week 3 offers tips to make reading comprehension tests less stressful
Don’t the Monthly Book Lists for Families, which has book suggestions divided by grade level and topic.

You can find many more reading resources in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Spelling

Kindergarten-12th Grade

Schoolhouse Spelling provides a full K-12 spelling curriculum on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.

For extra spelling fun, explore the spelling-themed games that are part of the Everyday Games series.
Literature (5th-8th)

At this stage, the focus shifts from the student reading and comprehending what he or she has read to reading deeply and evaluating what he or she has read. As always, plenty of time for reading for pleasure should also be allowed. Don’t forget the Monthly Book Lists for Families, which has book suggestions divided by grade level and topic.

As you read through the objectives for each year, please keep in mind that many of the skills listed can be applied to almost any piece of literature. Talk to your students about what they are reading. Ask them why they feel a certain way about an answer. How did they reach the conclusion they came to? Turn the objectives into questions and ask them to write their responses. Don’t try to turn reading into nothing more than a formulaic analysis. There is a place for that, and it’s important for students to learn to think critically about what they are reading. But it is also important to let students get lost in a great story and swept up into a world bigger than the one they know. Make time for both, and you will both enjoy the journey more!
Literature

5th Grade

- Evaluate works of literature through discussion, debate, and written critique
- Explain how details in the text support main ideas
- Describe the theme of a literary text
- Describe how chapters, sections, scenes, or stanzas fit together in a text
- Explain connections between people, events, ideas, concepts, or steps in a text
- Describe how a narrator’s or writer’s point of view influences the text
- Compare, contrast, and analyze texts in the same genre or on the same topic
- Continue to develop critical and appreciative levels of reading comprehension
- Identify lesser characters and their motives, traits, growth, and change
- Understand the use of allegory in text
- Build on understanding of rhyme patterns in poetry
- Begin a study of selected Shakespeare plays, perhaps beginning with *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

You may also enjoy reading about Shakespeare with Michelle Miller’s recommended reading list for *Shakespeare*. 
Literature

5th Grade
On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Literature: In the Literature class taught by Adam Andrews, students can study setting, plot, theme, characters, literary techniques, motive, and more while they develop critical thinking skills and learn to evaluate literature. You can choose any combination of the studies below to customize your year. You’ll note that some of these books are below 5th grade reading level—that’s OK! Completing a variety of the lessons below, regardless of the reading level of the books, is an excellent way to introduce your child to the skill of analyzing literature.

All the Places to Love by Patricia MacLachlan
Brave Irene by William Steig
The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden
Harriet, You’ll Drive Me Wild by Mem Fox
Miracles on Maple Hill by Virginia Sorensen
Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams
“Eeyore Finds the Wolery” from The House at Pooh Corner by A. A. Milne

Apples to Oregon by Deborah Hopkinson
The Clown of God by Tomie DePaola
Fishing in the Air by Sharon Creech
Letting Swift River Go by Jane Yolen
The Relatives Came by Cynthia Rylant
Two Eggs, Please! by Sarah Weeks
Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox

Creative Composition: nine weekly lessons

Or, if you prefer a more hands-on introduction to analyzing literature, try these Literature Kits, Children’s Literature for Life, and Lapbooking units:

Literature Kits:
All of a Kind Family by Sydney Taylor
The Quiltmaker’s Gift by Jeff Brumbeau

Columbus by Ingri and Edgar Parin D’Aulaire
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
Children's Literature for Life:
*Mama's Bank Account* by Kathryn Forbes

Lapbooking:
“The Bremen Town Musicians” by the Brothers Grimm
“The Walrus and the Carpenter” by Lewis Carroll
“O Captain! My Captain!” by Walt Whitman
“The Glorious Whitewasher” (from *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*) by Mark Twain
“Rikki-Tikki-Tavi” (from *The Jungle Book*) by Rudyard Kipling

“Casey at the Bat” by Earnest Lawrence Thayer
“The Old Year” by John Clare
“A Bird Came Down the Walk” by Emily Dickinson

For an introduction to Shakespeare, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, try *Simply Shakespeare*. 
Literature

6th Grade

• Continue to develop critical and appreciative levels of reading comprehension
• Read and evaluate selected Caldecott and Newbery award winners
• Learn to compare and contrast characters and their roles
• Understand denouement
• Identify the purpose of flashbacks and cliffhangers in stories
• Recognize symbolism in stories
• Expand on the knowledge of the classics
• Evaluate works of literature through discussion, debate, and written critique
• Be able to take notes from a written work and develop an outline from them
• Expand on knowledge of poetry and be sure to understand meter, iamb, and free verse
• Pinpoint evidence in a text that supports the obvious and subtle messages of the text
• Describe how the plot of a work unfolds
• Analyze how specific word choices impact a text's meaning and tone
• Analyze how a text presents information
Literature

6th Grade
On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

6th Grade is a fun time to become familiar with the Caldecott Medal and the Newbery Award and those who have won them. The Caldecott is awarded to the artist of the “most distinguished American picture book for children” and the Newbery Award is given to the author of the “most distinguished American children's book published the previous year.” There are studies of several of these winners on SchoolhouseTeachers.com which are listed below.

Caldecott Medal winners:

**Literature:**
The Biggest Bear by Lynd Ward Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine by Evaline Ness

*Since the Caldecott Medal is awarded to picture books, these books are below reading level, but the Literature study leads students through a thoughtful analysis of these two classics.*

Newbery Award (winners and honor books):

**Literature:**
The Door in the Wall by Marguerite de Angeli The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare
Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry

**Literature Kits:**
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell Call It Courage by Armstrong Wells Sperry
Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White

(cont.)
Children's Literature for Life:
*Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Lantham  
*Strawberry Girl* by Lois Lenski  
*Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare

Additional books that can be studied at this grade level include:

**Literature:** *The Book of Three* by Lloyd Alexander

**Literature Kit:** *The Year of Miss Agnes* by Kirkpatrick Hill

It is also an excellent time to introduce a deeper understanding of poetry in a fun, accessible way. *Opening the Door to Poetry* is a nine-week introduction to poetry specifically designed for the student who has not read much poetry in the past. It explores how to read and think about poetry, various poetic forms, vocabulary, literary devices, memorization, writing, and more. *Exploring Poetry with Notebooking* is a four-week exploration of understanding what poems are saying to us and how they make us feel. Each of the twenty poems are followed by notebooking exercises.

Additionally, you may wish to continue to expand on the classics with units from *Simply Shakespeare*.
Literature

7th Grade

- Compare and contrast two authors’ accounts of the same information
- Analyze the value and accuracy of primary and secondary sources on the same topic
- Expand on knowledge of works by prominent authors. Some suggested authors for this grade include Frost, Dickinson, Kipling, Bunyan, Alcott, Luther, Dickens, and Defoe.
- Expand on knowledge of the classics
- Continue to sharpen ability to analyze and evaluate works of literature through discussion, debate, and written critique. Take note of how elements of a story interact, how the theme or central idea is developed through a text, how the effect of specific words or tone affects the communication of the author’s message, and whether the author supports his or her claims with sound reasoning or evidence.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Analyzing, Understanding, and Evaluating Literature: 36-week course

An excellent series of lessons to help with literary analysis is the set of seven Chronicles of Narnia studies in Literature (four of which have corresponding Literature Kits).

One study of a popular classic is the Literature lesson on Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.

Students can enjoy a unit study of Around the World in 80 Days in our Unit Studies and More section.

Additional works can be explored through the Lapbooking units for middle school listed below:

“The Cask of Amontillado” by Edgar Allan Poe
“Because I Could Not Stop for Death” by Emily Dickinson
“Rip Van Winkle” by Washington Irving
“The Most Dangerous Game” by Richard Connell
“I Wandered Lonely As a Cloud” by William Wordsworth
“The Seven Stages of Man” from As You Like It by William Shakespeare
Literature

8th Grade

- Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal and an historical account of the same event or time period
- Expand on knowledge of works by prominent authors. Some suggested authors for this grade include Stu-art, Whittier, Longfellow, Hawthorne, and Sandburg.
- Expand on knowledge of the classics. Suggested works for this grade include *Cyrano de Bergerac, A Tale of Two Cities, Animal Farm, The Good Earth*, and *Twelfth Night*.
- Be familiar with dramatic elements including farce, satire, soliloquies, and asides
- Be able to dramatize a reading selection
- Research a certain aspect (scientific, historical, geographical) of a book
- Write a critical essay in response to a reading
- Compare and contrast tragedy and comedy
- Analyze if a movie or live performance is true to the text

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Elements of Literature: 36-week course

Literature: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

Fundamental Elements of Literature and Composition: 16-week course for 7th-9th grade (this course is also listed under 7th-12th Grade Writing and Composition)

Additional works can be explored through the Lapbooking units for middle-high school listed below: J.R.R. Tolkien: Influences From His Early Life

“To Autumn” by John Keats

Additionally, you may wish to continue to expand on the classics and practice the ability to dramatize a reading selection with units from Simply Shakespeare and In the Limelight (which includes a study of *Cyrano de Bergerac*). These units also give students an opportunity to research certain aspects of a book or play.
Literature (9th-12th)

High school literature is often based around themes or historical time periods or regions. An emphasis on reading with a sense of history and critical evaluation and response to what is read is generally stressed. It is also good to be aware of prospective colleges’ recommended reading lists and incorporate texts from these lists when appropriate.

Currently, SchoolhouseTeachers.com offers two tracks for Literature in this scope and sequence, but as with all classes on our site, you may choose to do any class at any time. These are simply two options to consider.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>9th Grade</th>
<th>10th Grade</th>
<th>11th Grade</th>
<th>12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional</td>
<td>General Literature</td>
<td>World Literature</td>
<td>American Literature</td>
<td>British Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>American Literature</td>
<td>British Literature</td>
<td>Advanced Literature</td>
<td>Advanced World Literature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our World Book Advanced library offers Pathfinders for advanced students interested in independent study. The Pathfinder “Literature” explores types of literature, movements in literature, and the literature of many nations of the world. The Pathfinder “Poetry” explores the lives of numerous famous poets from around the world, famous poems, and forms of poetry.
Literature

9th Grade (Traditional)

- Suggested authors for this grade include Hale, Tolstoy, O. Henry, Hawthorne, Alcott, a Kempis, Longfellow, and Shakespeare
- Suggested classics for this grade include *Romeo and Juliet* or *Anthony and Cleopatra*

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

*Exploring Literature*: thirty-six weeks

*Literature*: *At the Back of the North Wind* by George MacDonald

*Reflecting on Poetry* in the Unit Studies and More section is a basic introduction to analyzing poetry.

Continue to use the critical analysis skills learned in previous literature studies by applying them to the titles of the student’s choice (see suggested authors above).
Literature

9th Grade (Advanced)

Literature with a focus on American literature.

- Suggested authors for this grade include Melville, Longfellow, Whittier, Dickinson, Sandburg, Frost, and Bryant
- Suggested classics for this grade include *Moby Dick, Ben-Hur, and The Scarlet Letter*
- The history of American literature should also be explored including early American literature, American romanticism, American realism and naturalism, and modern American literature.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[American Literature in Historical Context](#): 36 weekly lessons
[Reflecting on Poetry](#) in the Unit Studies and More section is a basic introduction to analyzing poetry.
Literature

10th Grade (Traditional)

Literature in 10th grade is often focused on world literature from classic to contemporary with a careful evaluation of worldview. Works can be studied in chronological order or studied by region.

- Suggested authors for this grade include Dickens, Browning, Millay, Holmes, Poe, Doyle, Yeats, Tolstoy, Herbert, Homer, Aesop, Virgil, Foxe, Luther, Milton, Bunyan, Newton, and Machen
- Suggested classics for this grade include *Silas Marner*, *Henry V*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Antigone*

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

*World Literature and Cultures*: thirty-six weekly lessons
*High School Literature from a Biblical Perspective*: thirty-six weeks
*Literature*: *The Odyssey* by Homer
*Literature*: *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare

The *Writing* unit on “Three Questions” by Leo Tolstoy helps students analyze this folk tale.
Literature

10th Grade (Advanced)

Literature with a focus on British literature.

- Suggested authors for this grade include Wordsworth, Scott, Coleridge, Burns, Tennyson, Bunyan, and Shakespeare
- Suggested classics for this grade include *Robinson Crusoe, Macbeth, Othello, Hamlet, The Pilgrim’s Progress*
- Additional suggested classics for this grade that students should be familiar with key portions of include *Beowulf, Canterbury Tales*, and *Paradise Lost*
- The history of British literature should also be explored, including key developments in the following periods: Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Elizabethan, Puritan, 18th century, Romantic, Victorian, and modern

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

*Literature: A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens
*Literature: The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis

*Selected Works of Charles Dickens*: 18-week advanced high school literature course that examines five classic Charles Dickens works as well as a biography of the author

*High School British Literature*: 36-week course that takes an in-depth look at key periods in the history of British literature from Old English and medieval through modern and postmodern

Continue to use the critical analysis skills learned in previous literature studies by applying them to the titles of the student’s choice (see suggested authors above).
Literature

11th Grade (Traditional)

Literature in 11th grade is often focused on American literature.

- Suggested authors for this grade include Melville, Longfellow, Whittier, Dickinson, Sandburg, Frost, and Bryant
- Suggested classics for this grade include *Moby Dick*, *Ben-Hur*, and *The Scarlet Letter*
- The history of American literature should also be explored including early American literature, American romanticism, American realism and naturalism, and modern American literature.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**American Literature in Historical Context**: 36 weekly lessons

**American Folklore**: 26-week introduction to both folklore as a general subject and our own national treasury of folklore

**African American Literature**: 18-week advanced high school literature course for students wishing to explore African American literature from the time of the North American slave narratives to modern plays and playwrights

Continue to use the critical analysis skills learned in previous literature studies by applying them to the titles of the student’s choice (see suggested authors above).
Literature

11th Grade (Advanced)

- Advanced literature study

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Christian Values in J.R.R. Tolkien: 18-week advanced high school literature course studying six of the works of J.R.R. Tolkien and an important biography of Tolkien

Great Books, Part One: 18-week advanced literature study of the first portion of The Great Books of the Western World
Literature

12th Grade (Traditional)

Literature in 12th grade is often focused on British literature.

- Suggested authors for this grade include Wordsworth, Scott, Coleridge, Burns, Tennyson, Bunyan, and Shakespeare
- Suggested classics for this grade include *Robinson Crusoe*, *Macbeth*, *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *The Pilgrim’s Progress*
- Additional suggested classics for this grade that students should be familiar with key portions of include *Beowulf*, *Canterbury Tales*, and *Paradise Lost*
- The history of British literature should also be explored, including key developments in the following periods: Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Elizabethan, Puritan, 18th century, Romantic, Victorian, and modern

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**Literature: A Tale of Two Cities** by Charles Dickens

**Literature: The Great Divorce** by C.S. Lewis

**Selected Works of Charles Dickens**: 18-week advanced high school literature course that examines five classic Charles Dickens works as well as a biography of the author

**High School British Literature**: 36-week course that takes an in-depth look at key periods in the history of British literature from Old English and medieval through modern and postmodern

**Making Shakespeare Important**: 18 weeks

**Shakespeare, Dickens, and the Bible**: 36-week course

Continue to use the critical analysis skills learned in previous literature studies by applying them to the titles of the student’s choice (see suggested authors above).
Literature

12th Grade (Advanced)

- Literature from classic to contemporary with a careful evaluation of worldview

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Great Books, Part Two: 18-week advanced literature study of the second portion of The Great Books of the Western World
Worldviews in Literature: 18-week advanced literature study that examines worldviews and how they manifest themselves in literature
Handwriting (K-3rd)

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners continue to build on the prewriting skills they’ve learned previously. They need to know how to hold and position paper and pencil, how to form their letters, and generally how to align and space their letters. They need to be able to print all the letters of the alphabet in upper and lower case, print their first and last names, and write simple words.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Beginning Handwriting covers topics such as pencil grip, prewriting skills, letter formation, and tips and tricks for remembering which letter is which.

1st-2nd Grade

Handwriting in first grade focuses on improving the legibility of printed letters, words, and sentences. Spacing and alignment should gradually improve during this time.

3rd Grade

Cursive handwriting is often introduced in third grade.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com (for 1st-3rd Grade)

Everyday Copywork brings your student penmanship practice, in both print and cursive, through copying Bible portions, excerpts of literature, historical selections, and much more. There are many different lengths, and the copywork varies in difficulty, so it is suitable for many ages. You will also find alphabet worksheets for the little ones who are just learning to print.
Writing and Composition

We encourage you to incorporate writing in as many subjects as you can. Students can write recipes, create historic journals, write instructions for how to program a computer, keep a journal, etc. The possibilities are endless and do not need to be confined to a portion of a language arts curriculum.

**Sparking the Noggin: Creative Writing with Pictures** is a fun encouragement for writers in 4th-7th grade, and **Into the Elements** is a 3-hour video course for 6th-10th grade about sharing life-changing truth by learning the storytelling lessons the Bible teaches.

Please note: The focus of the writing and composition section of this scope and sequence is on creativity and composition, not the physical act of writing. If your child struggles with the physical act of writing, please take a look at Judi Munday’s [Special Needs Lessons 15 and 16](#) for alternative ways you can help your child express his or her thoughts.
Writing and Composition

Kindergarten

Since handwriting is still a developing skill at this stage, the focus here is more on creativity and composition. Encourage students to dictate sentences they compose and complete sentence starters you give to them. Spelling should not be corrected at this time. Students should be encouraged to “spell it as it sounds” to promote sound discrimination in words.

1st Grade

Students should practice completing sentences, short stories, and rhymes that they are given. They should practice writing descriptions of things they see or experience. They should practice creative writing by creating journal entries, stories, poems, newspaper articles, letters, or anything else they enjoy. They should also be gently introduced to the concept of the writing process—formulating ideas, writing a draft, revising and editing a draft, and creating the final piece. This should be done very naturally at this stage without causing the young writer stress or worry.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Formal writing classes are not offered for these grade levels, as natural integration of creativity and composition is encouraged for this age.
Writing and Composition

2nd Grade

Students should practice writing a response to something they have read, rewriting a scene from a different point of view, or writing alternate endings to stories. Encourage your student to start thinking about what they’ve read and reacting to it. This will set the stage for more critical literary analysis as they mature.

Help students learn different ways to construct their stories. Introduce them to the brainstorming part of the writing process with graphic organizers such as word webs, time-order charts, story maps, senses charts, and note cards. No two children are alike, so help your child find the best vehicle to get his or her thoughts together for a story or assignment.

Help students learn to proofread their work and make necessary revisions. This is also a good time to begin introducing basic proofreading marks.

Encourage children to write creatively and in complete sentences. They should begin learning how to write friendly letters (with the proper format), envelopes, postcards, thank you notes, book reports, short stories, simple research reports, and basic poems (such as couplets or shape poems). A few of the many other things they could consider writing at this age are personal narratives, instructions about how to do something, make-believe stories, descriptions, and journal entries. Stories should include details, properly sequenced events, and a conclusion.

You’ll find a library of graphic organizers in our World Book libraries.
Writing and Composition

2nd Grade

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**Little Language Arts:** Unit 1 (Lessons 1-5) teaches students how to write a variety of simple types of poems

**Ditch the Desk:** stand-alone units on becoming an author/illustrator, Jack and the Beanstalk, the Emperor’s New Clothes, writing your own fairy tale, and banishing boring book reports

**Adventures in Writing:** wild and wacky introduction to the world of writing

**The Writing Process:** This unit is part of our Unit Studies and More section. It explains the key steps in writing and revising, which are important to become familiar with at a young age. This unit is written for the parent, not the student, so it is important to guide your child through becoming familiar with these concepts and show them examples in their own work.

Our [World Book Kids library](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com/worldbookkids) includes lesson plans about syllable poems, fairy tales, tongue twisters (alliteration), and shape poems under Write It Down.
Writing and Composition

3rd Grade

In addition to the graphic organizers such as word webs, time-order charts, story maps, senses charts, and note cards, expand your student’s tools for brainstorming by teaching him or her to create opinion charts, plot pyramids, and Venn diagrams.

Help your student continue to build his or her proofreading and revising skills.

To the couplets and shape poems already introduced, add similes, rhyming riddles, and alliterative phrases to your student’s knowledge of poetry.

Students should learn to write short research reports, including learning to use proper paragraph structure, using transitional words and phrases to connect ideas, and gathering information from print and digital sources. Reports should state a topic or purpose, supply relevant facts and reasons, and present a conclusion.

Students should write short stories that include dialogue and description that helps develop characters and events, that put events in the proper order, and that provide a conclusion.

Students should continue to explore a wide variety of writing assignments including stories, personal narratives, poems, essays, reports, journals, book diaries, family newsletters, game instructions, personal letters, realistic fiction, book reports, sound poems, news articles, descriptive paragraphs, plays, and tall tales.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Elementary Writing with Structure: 36 weekly lessons
Little Language Arts: Lessons 18-19 explore writing descriptive sentences and paragraphs
Writing and Composition

4th Grade

In addition to the graphic organizers already used, expand your student’s tools for brainstorming by teaching him or her to create character webs, event/details charts, T-charts, and outlines.

Students should learn to format and write a bibliography, persuasive pieces such as business letters and essays, and compare/contrast essays.

Students should write book reviews, create similes and metaphors, write haikus and acrostic poems, and learn to conduct and write an interview.

Students should continue to develop their skills for writing strong paragraphs and write multi-paragraph compositions that include introductory, supporting, and concluding paragraphs, each with proper indentation and topic sentences.

Fourth grade offers a good chance to learn keyboarding/typing skills if they have not been learned previously.

Students should continue to explore a wide variety of writing assignments including stories, personal narratives, poems, essays, research reports, journals, family newsletters, book reports, magazine articles, and small books.

Students should include an appropriate amount of dialogue and description in their writing.
Writing and Composition

4th Grade

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Expanding Your Writing Skills: 9-week study of various writing skills and techniques

Creative Storytelling: 15-week introduction to various types of writing

How to Write a Research Paper: stand-alone unit in the Unit Studies and More section

Little Language Arts: 35 weekly lessons giving a strong foundation in writing skills

SchoolhouseTeachers.com also offers a Keyboarding class for interested students.
Writing and Composition

5th Grade

Be able to use a multi-step writing process, involving prewriting, writing a first draft, revising, editing, and writing a final version of a work.

Students should continue to create the forms and creative pieces studied previously and learn to write speeches, diamantes, sense poems, character sketches, summaries, advertisements, news articles, biographies, and fables.

Students should continue to develop their skills for writing strong paragraphs and write multi-paragraph compositions that include introductory, supporting, and concluding paragraphs, each with proper indentation and topic sentences.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Discovering Poetic Elements: eight weekly lessons
Paragraphs, Poetry, and Prose: Elementary Writing: 24-week study
Crafting Fiction: seven weekly lessons

Our Writing class includes three units that study fables and how to write an original one:
• “The Ant and the Grasshopper” by Aesop
• “Happy Prince” by Oscar Wilde
• “The Mice in Council” by Aesop

If students are not yet familiar with the writing process, the stand-alone unit The Writing Process in our Unit Studies and More section explains the key steps in writing and revising. Writing diamantes and advertisements are covered in classes for other grade levels.
Writing and Composition

6th Grade

Increasingly, writing and composition assignments are going to become an integrated part of other subjects such as history, social studies, and science. Students should learn how to write informative, explanatory, or persuasive pieces that are supported with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Students should learn about the use of anaphora, allusion, irony, and understatement in poetry and prose. They should be well acquainted with devices of style such as imagery, hyperbole, theme, irony, pun, point of view, and figurative language.

Students should learn about dishonest tactics used in persuasion, how to recognize them in material they read or hear, and how and why to avoid them in their own writing.

Students should be able to tailor their writing to a chosen audience or purpose—academic, personal, or business.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Essay Writing 101: begins with a look at the writing process and then continues with a study of common essay forms including expository, biographical, descriptive, personal experience, eyewitness report, and cause and effect
Logic: 15-week study helps students learn to analyze statements, advertisements, and arguments and to identify faulty reasoning contained in each
Creating Dynamic Characters: helps students create memorable characters in fiction
Paint With Your Words: will help students change passive writing into active writing
Exploring Creative Writing: 16 weeks
Introducing the Many Faces of Poetry: 21 weeks of bite-sized lessons (cont.)
Additionally, the following Writing and Classics-Based Writing units explore specific literary devices:

- “The Wild Swans at Coole” by William Butler Yeats (imagery)
- “The Alarming Spread of Poetry” by P.G. Wodehouse (hyperbole)
- “The Pumpkin” by John Greenleaf Whittier (allusion)
- “The Two Frogs,” traditional Japanese folktale (irony)
- “A Plea for Indoor Golf” by P.G. Wodehouse (humor)
- “A Resignation” by Bill Nye (humor)
- “Daffodils” by William Wordsworth (personification)
- “Casey at the Bat” by Ernest Thayer (comic poem)
- Country of the Pointed Firs by Sarah Orne Jewett (description)
- “Written in March” by William Wordsworth (personification)
- “To Autumn” by John Keats (use of vivid words and rhyme)
- Classics Based Writing: Mark Antony’s Funeral Oration from Julius Caesar (irony)
Writing and Composition

7th-12th Grade

In junior high and high school, writing is an integrated part of most subjects. Some students may wish to focus on writing classes tailored to a specific interest such as playwriting or fiction writing. This is also the time when some students enjoy exploring the history of the English language as it has changed over the centuries. In addition to developing and polishing their writing skills with cross-curricular assignments, students also should learn:

- to write a letter to the editor
- to appropriately cite quotations and sources
- to paraphrase material while avoiding plagiarism
- to be familiar with word processing/publishing software
- to assess the credibility and accuracy of sources
- to use parallelism in their writing where appropriate
- to write webpages and blog posts
- to write a resume
- to write an analytical essay
- to write an interior monologue for a character
- to create and deliver a multimedia presentation

A large number of writing and composition topics are explored in the following classes, though depending on the classes chosen and the interests of the student, you may wish to add writing a specific type of piece such as a letter to the editor or blog posts.
Writing and Composition

7th-12th Grade
On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Writing On This Day In History: collection of history-themed writing prompts for every day of the year; designed for 7th-10th grade
Words and What to Do With Them: 9 weeks for students who want to learn what to do with what they've written
Benjamin Franklin Writing Method: 24-week course that helps your 7th-12th grade student improve their writing skills using the same method employed by Benjamin Franklin—imitating the masters
Experiencing Epics and Poetry: 18-week course for 7th-8th grade
Creative Writing: 24-week course to help your 6th-9th grade student learn modern fiction writing techniques and move their work toward publication
Writing: Advertising Copy: short three-week course that helps students in 7th-12th grade incorporate the methods used in advertising in their own writing and identify those methods when they see them in advertising they read
Writing: Compare and Contrast: 10-week mini-course that will help students in 7th-12th grade learn the fine art of comparing and contrasting in what they write
The Writing Life: Learn to Write Well: 34-week course for 9th-12th grade that teaches various types of writing including fiction, newspaper, reports, magazine articles, and more
Writing: College Admission Essay: 2-week mini-course that helps juniors and seniors prepare for and write the college admission essay
Fundamental Elements of Literature and Composition: 16-week course for 7th-9th grade (this course is also listed under 8th Grade Literature)

Writing units that would complement a 10th grade world literature class:
- “Three Questions” by Leo Tolstoy
- Around the World in Eighty Days by Jules Verne
- “Daedalus and Icarus” by Ovid and Bulfinch
- History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire by Edward Gibbon (cont.)
Writing and Composition

7th-12th Grade

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com (cont.)

Writing and Classics-Based Writing units that would complement a 11th grade American literature class:
- “A Message to Garcia” by Elbert Hubbard
- “Paul Revere’s Ride” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- “Whistle” by Benjamin Franklin
- Moby Dick by Herman Melville
- “I Hear America Singing” by Walt Whitman
- “Hearts and Hands” by O. Henry
- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
- Classics-Based Writing: “To a Locomotive In Winter” by Walt Whitman
- Classics-Based Writing: Condolence Letter to Mrs. Bixby by Abraham Lincoln
- Classics-Based Writing: Declaration of Independence by Thomas Jefferson

Writing and Classics-Based Writing units that would complement a 12th grade British literature class:
- “The Slavery of Free Verse” by G.K. Chesterton
- “How They Brought the Good News from Ghent to Aix” by Robert Browning
- “Sonnet VII: How Soon Hath Time, the Subtle Thief of Youth” by John Milton
- “On First Looking Into Chapman’s Homer” by John Keats
- “Advent” by Christina Rossetti
- “The Fly” by William Blake
- “The Wind and the Moon” by George MacDonald
- “The Seven Ages of Man” from As You Like It by William Shakespeare
- “To Winter” by William Blake
- “The White Ship” by Dante Gabriel Rossetti
- Classics-Based Writing: “Easter Wings” by George Herbert
- Classics-Based Writing: “Daffodils” by William Wordsworth
- Classics-Based Writing: Bleak House by Charles Dickens
- Classics-Based Writing: “Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day” by William Shakespeare

(cont.)
Writing and Composition

7th-12th Grade

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com (cont.)

Additional Writing and Classics-Based Writing units for 7th-12th grade cont.:

- “September 1918” by Amy Lowell
- “A Leak in the Dike” by Phoebe Cary
- Classics-Based Writing: “Opportunity” by Edward R. Sill
- Classics-Based Writing: “Death Comes for the Archbishop” by Willa Cather
- Classics-Based Writing: Limericks by various authors
Additional Writing and Composition Resources

**Writing Mechanics:** six-month course for elementary students designed to strengthen writing by improving one sentence at a time

**Ditch the Desk:** Test Taking—Week 1 offers tips to make writing tests less stressful for elementary students

**Daily Writing:** more than 1,500 writing prompts to encourage creativity, thinking skills, and writing skills for students in 4th-12th grade

**Writing On This Day In History:** collection of history-themed writing prompts for every day of the year; designed for 7th-10th grade
Grammar

1st Grade

First graders need to learn:

- basic rules of capitalization such as capitalizing the first word in a sentence, proper names, the pronoun I, days of the week, and months of the year
- a sentence starts with a capital letter and ends with punctuation, either a period, question mark, or exclamation point
- commas are used in dates and in series, and apostrophes are used in contractions and possessives
- the job of nouns, verbs, and adjectives
- how to make a complete sentence
- synonyms (same meaning words), antonyms (opposites), and homonyms (same sound words)
- adding s to regular nouns to make them plural
- an introduction to what syllables are
- the idea of comparative and superlative words
- how words use suffixes and prefixes
- what a compound word is

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**Daily Grammar: 1st Grade:** 108 daily lessons

Additionally, you may enjoy:

**Little Language Arts:** Lessons 14, 16, and 17 discuss nouns, pronouns, adjectives, and adverbs

Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the **Monthly Book Lists for Families** all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

2nd Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, second graders need to also learn:

- to use capital letters when referring to special people, places, holidays, product names, book titles, abbreviations, initials, and geographic names
- sentences have a subject and predicate
- how to identify incomplete sentences
- the types of sentences (declarative/telling, interrogative/question, imperative, and exclamatory) and which punctuation mark to use at the end of each
- commas in dates, series, and addresses
- continue to expand knowledge of synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, rhyming words, and compound words
- what a contraction is and how to use the apostrophe correctly to form one
- different types of nouns (common, proper, singular, plural, possessive) and how to make regular nouns plural (the –s and –es rules)
- different types of verbs (action and linking) and their basic tenses (past, present, and future)
- past tense of common irregular verbs
- the job of an adjective and how to use comparatives and superlatives
- the job of a pronoun and the word it references
- common abbreviations
- how to avoid double negatives
- the basic job of an adverb
- about subject/verb agreement
Grammar

2nd Grade

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Daily Grammar: 2nd Grade: 73 daily lessons

Additionally, there are a large number of Everyday Games: Reading that reinforce many of these skills. Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the Monthly Book Lists for Families all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

3rd Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, third graders need to also learn:

- to correctly use collective nouns
- the job of helping verbs
- the use of articles
- to form the plural of regular and irregular nouns
- reflexive, subjective, objective, and possessive pronouns
- the job of adjectives and the rules governing their use
- the job of adverbs and the rules governing their use
- compound sentences
- sentence parts including simple, compound, and complete subjects and simple, compound, and complete predicates
- basic diagramming
- more work with contractions
- how to use quotation marks and properly punctuate dialogue
- to work with apostrophes regarding contractions and possessive nouns

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Daily Grammar: 3rd-4th Grade: 187 daily lessons that can be done one-per-day in either 3rd or 4th grade or split between the two years

Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the Monthly Book Lists for Families all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

4th Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, fourth graders need to also learn:

- subject, object, and predicate nouns
- predicate adjectives
- introductory and prepositional phrases
- prepositional phrases used as adverbs
- more complex diagramming
- independent and dependent clauses
- often confused or misused words
- Greek and Latin roots
- to italicize book titles
- how to use parentheses
- how to use conjunctions and interjections

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Daily Grammar: 3rd-4th Grade: 187 daily lessons that can be done one-per-day in either 3rd or 4th grade or split between the two years

Little Language Arts: Lesson 31 discusses interjections

Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the Monthly Book Lists for Families all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

5th Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, fifth graders need to also learn:

- about progressive verb tenses
- about demonstrative and predicate adjectives
- how to distinguish between coordinating and subordinating conjunctions
- to diagram the various parts of speech they are learning about
- to recognize and diagram complements
- proper word usage
- proper use of a colon and semicolon
- proper use of nominative, objective, and possessive pronouns
- about appositives
- how to use various verb tenses appropriately in writing and when it is or is not appropriate to shift verb tense
- how to correctly use problem words including *good* and *well*, *between* and *among*, *bring* and *take*, *accept* and *except*, *affect* and *effect*, *who* and *whom*, *capital* and *capitol*, *principle* and *principal*, and *like* and *as*.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**Daily Grammar: 5th Grade**: 180 daily lessons

Students can even have fun *reading* about grammar! Check out the **Monthly Book Lists for Families** all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

6th Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, sixth graders need to also learn:

- perfect tenses of verbs
- about comparative and superlative adverbs
- about intensive, interrogative, demonstrative, and indefinite pronouns
- how to use various grammar guides
- the meaning of foreign words commonly used in English
- complex and compound-complex sentence structure
- to distinguish between active and passive verbs
- to vary sentence structure and length to make writing more interesting to read
- how to identify misplaced and dangling modifiers

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Daily Grammar: 6th-7th Grade: 16 weekly worksheets that review and build on grammar skills and practice diagramming (covers many of the topics listed above)

Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the Monthly Book Lists for Families all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

7th Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, seventh graders need to also learn:

- about the structure of clauses—simple, compound, and complex
- about direct and indirect objects
- about gerunds, gerund phrases, infinitives, and infinitive phrases
- how to use brackets, dashes, and hyphens correctly
- how to choose precise and concise words in speaking and writing
- how to maintain consistency in style and tone in a piece of writing

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**Daily Grammar: 6th-7th Grade**: 16 weekly worksheets that review and build on grammar skills and practice diagramming (covers many of the topics listed above)

**Daily Grammar: 7th-8th Grade**: 16 weekly worksheets that review and build on grammar skills and practice diagramming (covers many of the topics listed above)

Students can even have fun *reading* about grammar! Check out the **Monthly Book Lists for Families** all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

8th Grade

In building on what has been previously learned, eighth graders need to also learn:

- progressive tenses of verbs
- about participles
- about verbal phrases
- how to use italics and quotation marks correctly when referring to the title of an artistic work, names of ships, etc.
- how to form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive moods
- about qualifier and relative adverbs
- about phrasal prepositions
- about two-way modifiers
- about perfect and passive gerunds, perfect and passive infinitives, split infinitives, progressive infinitives, and elliptical infinitives
- about reciprocal pronouns
- about conjunctive adverbs
- about perfect and passive participles

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Daily Grammar: 7th-8th Grade: 16 weekly worksheets that review and build on grammar skills and practice diagramming (covers many of the topics listed above)

Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the Monthly Book Lists for Families all about Spelling and Grammar.
Grammar

9th-12th Grade

In many curriculums, grammar ceases to be focused on as a separate topic in high school. The grammar rules learned in previous years are incorporated with high school writing during these times.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Daily Grammar: 9th Grade: 16 weekly worksheets that review grammar skills and practice diagramming

Students can even have fun reading about grammar! Check out the Monthly Book Lists for Families all about Spelling and Grammar.
Listening and Speaking Skills

Kindergarten

- Follow one- and two-step oral directions
- Retell familiar stories
- Invent and tell stories
- Put ideas in sequence after hearing a story
- Speak clearly and at the appropriate volume
- Memorize short, simple rhymes, poems, and Scripture
- Complete action rhymes
- Portray a character from a story

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find resources for retelling and sequencing stories in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com. Additional skills such as memorizing rhymes are included in Fun with Memorization.
Listening and Speaking Skills

1st Grade

- Listen to, restate, and follow two- and three-step oral directions
- Read aloud to others
- Creatively reenact stories
- Memorize and recite short poems, rhymes, and Scriptures
- Listen for enjoyment to many kinds of stories, poems, nursery rhymes, folktales, etc.
- Listen to stories for comprehension, interpreting and answering questions about what the student has heard
- Dictating words, phrases, and sentences for someone to write down
- Describe an experience or share an idea

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Beginning Listening & Speaking Skills: 30 daily activities (6 weeks)

Additionally, you can find resources for listening for enjoyment and comprehension in the Literacy Center on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.
Listening and Speaking Skills

2nd Grade

- Communicate the message of the author, the meaning and mood of the story, and the characters and emotion in a story
- Respond to punctuation when reading aloud
- Read aloud with expression
- Give short reports based on facts from multiple sources
- Present an oral book report
- Take a phone message
- Convey dialogue when reading aloud
- Memorize and recite age-appropriate poems
- Exhibit proper fluency when reading aloud

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Reader’s Theater and Simply Shakespeare in the Drama and Speech category give students excellent opportunities to practice their speaking skills. Banishing Boring Book Reports in Ditch the Desk offers creative ways to deliver book reports. A fun way to practice giving a short report is the Biography project in Unit 3 of Little Language Arts.
Listening and Speaking Skills

3rd Grade

- Continue to build fluency and confidence in delivering information orally to individuals
- Learn to make an introduction
- Practice delivering short dramatizations
- Memorize and recite age-appropriate poems

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Reader’s Theater and Simply Shakespeare in the Drama and Speech category give students excellent opportunities to practice their speaking skills.
Listening and Speaking Skills

4th-12th Grade

Once the foundation for good speaking skills is laid, there is no end to where a student may go with it. It is good practice for the student to deliver a portion of his or her work orally, whether it be a book report, a play, or the recitation of poetry using clear diction, making appropriate eye contact, and speaking at an appropriate volume. As students get older, it is important they learn to not only give but also analyze oral presentations by drawing conclusions, asking questions, and critiquing messages for bias, fallacies, opinion cited as fact, and unsupported generalizations. They should also practice taking coherent notes from an oral presentation.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

See the complete list of classes on SchoolhouseTeachers.com designed to help students sharpen their skills and gain confidence in speaking in our Drama and Speech category.
Research Skills

Kindergarten-2nd Grade

- Learn to identify the parts of a book: cover, title, title page, author, and illustrator
- Read a color key
- Find information using the table of contents, chapter headings, index, or glossary
- Understand the main difference between books that tell stories (fiction) and books that share information (nonfiction)
- Beginning dictionary skills including using guide words, understanding alphabetical order, learning about the parts of an entry, and using them to find definitions and check spelling
- Learn the basics of what a thesaurus is and how to use one to find synonyms and antonyms

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Several of these skills are covered in the SchoolhouseTeachers.com Literacy Center.

Little Language Arts: Unit 8 (Lessons 32-35) teaches students how to use common reference books; Unit 3: Lesson 10 introduces nonfiction writing

Ditch the Desk: stand-alone unit on becoming an author/illustrator
Research Skills

3rd-6th Grade

- Become comfortable using a thesaurus and encyclopedia
- Become comfortable using a dictionary, understanding the usefulness of multiple definitions, sample sentences, etymology, and the pronunciation key
- Be familiar with how to use the library, including the Dewey Decimal system and the electronic catalog
- Be able to use a Bible concordance and cross references
- Be able to use a newspaper to gather or find information
- Understand how to use a timeline
- Differentiate between primary and secondary sources

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Research Skills: six-week unit designed to help students in 6th or 7th grade brush up on research skills including using a dictionary, library skills, writing a bibliography, checking the accuracy of online information, and writing a proper citation

How to Do Research: unit for 4th-8th grade

Navigating the World of Research: 9 weeks for 3rd-6th grade

Our World Book libraries include multiple research tools for students including a kids dictionary, a How to Use the Dictionary guide, a standard dictionary, a How to Do Research center, a citation builder, and a visual dictionary.