



Founded in 2007, Great Minds PBC has evolved from an education advocacy start-up to a respected curriculum developer providing the highest-quality materials and professional development to schools and districts nationwide. In pursuit of its goal of raising expectations for every student, Great Minds® enlists educators to write curricula based on proven learning strategies to reward students' natural curiosity, build knowledge, and cultivate lifelong critical-thinking skills. Writing teams collaborate to ensure a consistent structure and vision for learning within and across all grade levels. We are pleased to bring you our newest kindergarten through grade level 8 English language arts (ELA) offering, *Arts & Letters™*.

Arts & Letters students engage with high-quality texts to explore science and social studies topics, literature, and fine art. By studying topics in depth, students build knowledge of the lived experiences of others and learn how a deeper knowledge of those experiences can change the world. The text-based lessons build strong readers, writers, and communicators through effective use

of grammar and vocabulary. All students read and discuss grade-level texts, and the curriculum provides guidance for supporting all learners at key moments in the lessons.

There are four topic-driven modules for each grade level in *Arts & Letters*. The modules last between six and eight weeks and contain approximately 40 lessons. The core of each module is a selection of literary works, informational texts, and visual art. All modules integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language instruction.

Arts & Letters was intentionally designed to be implemented alongside a high-quality, research-based foundational skills program. With strategic placement of supplemental materials, students can successfully achieve the proficiencies of Alabama standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge-building of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Alabama standards and *Arts & Letters* follows.

Recurring Standards

Reception

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>REC.R1</p> <p>Utilize active listening skills during discussion and conversation in pairs, small groups, or whole-class settings, following agreed-upon rules for participation.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 39</p>
<p>REC.R2</p> <p>Use context clues to determine meanings of unfamiliar spoken or written words.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 18</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lesson 2</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lesson 2</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 5, 14, 20</p>

Recurring Standards

Expression

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>EXP.R3</p> <p>Use digital and electronic tools appropriately, safely, and ethically when researching and writing, both individually and collaboratively.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 33, 35</p>
<p>EXP.R4</p> <p>Utilize a writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writings in various genres.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 21, 23, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39</p>

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
	Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 33, 34, 35
EXP.R5 Assess the formality of occasions in order to speak or write using appropriate language and tone.	Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39
EXP.R6 Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.	Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 7, 21, 32, 36 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 10, 19, 26, 30, 31, 36 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 18, 31, 36 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 23, 27, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39

Critical Literacy

Reception: Reading

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
CL.REC.R.1 Identify and explain an author's rhetorical choices, including point of view, purpose, anecdotes, and figurative, connotative, and technical word meanings, to develop central and supporting ideas.	Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 6, 7, 15, 27, 31 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 3, 6, 8, 10, 14, 16, 18, 21, 22, 24, 28, 29, 30, 32, 36 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 17, 24, 27, 32 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, 25, 26

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>CL.REC.R.2</p> <p>Make inferences and draw logical conclusions from the content and structures of informational texts, including comparison and contrast, problem and solution, claims and evidence, cause and effect, description, and sequencing.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 5, 6</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 14, 21, 25, 28, 31</p>
<p>CL.REC.R.3</p> <p>Explain how authors use setting, plot, characters, theme, conflict, dialogue, and point of view to contribute to the meaning and purpose of prose and poetry, using textual evidence from the writing.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 32, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 12, 15, 21, 23, 27, 30</p>
<p>CL.REC.R.4</p> <p>Describe the use of literary devices in prose and poetry, including simile, metaphor, personification, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, tone, imagery, irony, symbolism, and mood, and indicate how they support interpretations of the text.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address describing the use of literary devices in prose and poetry.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 15, 27, 31</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 6, 16, 22</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 10, 24, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 25</p>

Critical Literacy

Reception: Listening

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>CL.REC.L.5</p> <p>Evaluate the development of central and supporting ideas in recorded or live presentations by examining the speaker's rhetorical choices</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 8, 26, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 5, 7, 21, 27, 28, 29</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 7, 12, 22, 30</p>

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
regarding point of view, purpose, anecdotes, and figurative, connotative, and technical word meanings.	Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 4, 28
<p>CL.REC.L.6</p> <p>Support interpretations of recorded or live presentations by examining the speaker's use of hyperbole, tone, symbolism, imagery, mood, irony, and onomatopoeia.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 5, 6, 7, 8</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 5, 8, 14, 15, 21, 23</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 7, 12, 16, 22, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 4, 25, 26, 28</p>

Critical Literacy

Expression: Writing

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>CL.EXP.W.7</p> <p>Produce clear, coherent narrative, argument, and informative/explanatory writing in which the development, organization, style, and tone are relevant to task, purpose, and audience, using an appropriate command of language.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>CL.EXP.W.7.a</p> <p>Write narratives incorporating key literary elements, including characters, plot, setting, point of view, resolution of a conflict, dialogue, and sensory details.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>CL.EXP.W.7.b</p> <p>Write informative or explanatory texts with an organized structure and a formal style, incorporating a focused point of view, a clear purpose, credible evidence, and technical word meanings.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>CL.EXP.W.7.c</p> <p>Write an argument to convince the reader to take an action or adopt a position, stating a claim and supporting the claim with relevant, well-organized evidence from credible sources.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address convincing a reader to take an action or adopt a position.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>

Critical Literacy

Expression: Speaking

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>CL.EXP.S.8</p> <p>Participate in collaborative discussions using information from a source.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 39</p>
<p>CL.EXP.S.9</p> <p>Participate in collaborative discussions about literary devices and elements found in prose and poetry.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 6, 7, 15, 20, 21, 27, 31, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 10, 18, 26, 29, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 6, 8, 10, 17, 18, 24, 30, 31</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 13, 17, 23, 26, 27, 30</p>

Digital Literacy

Reception: Reading

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
DL.REC.R.10 Determine subject, occasion, audience, purpose, tone, and credibility of digital sources.	Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 8, 10, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29
DL.REC.R.11 Utilize written, visual, digital, and interactive texts to generate and answer literal, interpretive, and applied questions.	Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 8, 26, 36 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 7, 21, 27

Digital Literacy

Reception: Listening

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
DL.REC.L.12 Interpret language to determine subject, occasion, audience, purpose, and credibility of digital sources, with guidance and support.	Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 15, 27, 31 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 6, 14, 16, 22, 32 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 7, 10, 12, 14, 27, 32 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 5, 6, 25

Digital Literacy

Expression: Writing

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
DL.EXP.W.13 Create and edit digital products that are appropriate in subject and purpose for a particular audience or occasion.	Level 6, Module 2, Lesson 39 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 33, 35

Digital Literacy**Expression: Speaking**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>DL.EXP.S.14</p> <p>Enhance oral presentations by introducing ideas in digital formats with specific attention to subject, occasion, audience, and purpose.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 33, 36, 37, 38</p>

Language Literacy**Reception: Reading**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>LL.REC.R.15</p> <p>Identify the conventions of standard English grammar and usage in published texts.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 4, 6, 22, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 21, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 14, 22</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 8</p>
<p>LL.REC.R.15.a</p> <p>Identify subject-verb agreement when interrupted by a prepositional phrase, with inverted word order, and with indefinite pronouns as subjects.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses this standard in grade level 4.</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lesson 34</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lesson 21</p>
<p>LL.REC.R.15.b</p> <p>Evaluate pronoun usage for number and case.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 4, 6, 22, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 14, 22</p>
<p>LL.REC.R.15.c</p> <p>Identify common errors in pronoun usage.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 21, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 14, 22</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 8</p>

<p>LL.REC.R.16 Identify the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling in published texts.</p>	Level 6, Module 2, Lesson 3
<p>LL.REC.R.16.a Identify commas, parentheses, and dashes that are used to set off nonrestrictive or parenthetical elements in texts from various genres.</p>	Level 6, Module 2, Lesson 3

Language Literacy

Reception: Listening

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>LL.REC.L.17 Assess a speaker’s organizational choices to determine point of view, purpose, and effectiveness.</p>	Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 8 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 28, 29, 30 Level 6, Module 3, Lesson 30
<p>LL.REC.L.18 Identify a speaker’s correct usage of language, including subject-verb agreement and pronouns.</p>	Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 39 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 20, 30, 38 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 30, 32 Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 37

Language Literacy**Expression: Writing**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>LL.EXP.W.19</p> <p>Demonstrate command of standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics when writing.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 4, 6, 18, 22, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 21, 30, 33</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 14, 22, 32, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 8, 28</p>
<p>LL.EXP.W.19.a</p> <p>Use commas, parentheses, or dashes to set off nonrestrictive or parenthetical elements.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 2, Lesson 33</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 32, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 28</p>
<p>LL.EXP.W.19.b</p> <p>Revise writing for correct mechanics with a focus on commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, colons, and semicolons.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses apostrophes in grade level 2.</p> <p>Level 2, Module 3, Lesson 21</p> <p>Level 2, Module 4, Lesson 15</p> <p><i>Arts & Letters</i> does not address colons or semicolons.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 32, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 28</p>
<p>LL.EXP.W.19.c</p> <p>Compose and revise writing by using various pronouns and their antecedents correctly.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 4, 6, 18, 22, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 21, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 14, 22</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 8</p>

Language Literacy**Expression: Speaking**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>LL.EXP.S.20</p> <p>Choose language that maintains consistency in style and tone in a variety of formal and/or informal settings.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 7, 21, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 10, 19, 26, 30, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 18, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 23, 27, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>

Research Literacy**Reception: Reading**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>RL.REC.R.21</p> <p>Summarize ethical guidelines and explain how they govern the process of finding and recording information from primary, secondary, and digital sources, with guidance and support.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses this standard in grade level 8.</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32</p>
<p>RL.REC.R.22</p> <p>Assess the relevance, reliability, and validity of information from printed and/or digital texts.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 22, 24</p>

Research Literacy**Reception: Listening**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>RL.REC.L.23</p> <p>Use an audio or audio-visual source of information to obtain the answer to a question.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> does not address this standard.</p>

Research Literacy

Expression: Writing

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>RL.EXP.W.24</p> <p>Write about research findings independently over short and/or extended periods of time.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37</p>
<p>RL.EXP.W.25</p> <p>Quote, paraphrase, and summarize information from sources and present findings, following an appropriate citation style, with guidance and support.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 21, 23, 25, 29</p>

Research Literacy

Expression: Speaking

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>RL.EXP.S.26</p> <p>Utilize research findings to communicate relevant details, opinions, and ideas about a topic or text in oral presentations.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 29, 33, 34</p>
<p>RL.EXP.S.26.a</p> <p>Answer questions in discussions about their research findings.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> does not address this standard.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 29, 33, 34</p>

Vocabulary Literacy

Reception: Reading

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>VL.REC.R.27</p> <p>Discover word meanings by analyzing word parts, examining connotation and denotation, or using print or digital reference tools.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 6, 15</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 14, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 3, 17</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 6, 8, 13, 14, 20, 21</p>

Vocabulary Literacy

Reception: Listening

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>VL.REC.L.28</p> <p>Discover word meanings through active listening in various contexts.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> does not address this standard.</p>

Vocabulary Literacy

Expression: Writing

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>VL.EXP.W.29</p> <p>Use academic vocabulary in writing to communicate effectively.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 7, 9, 12, 15, 21, 22, 23, 29, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>

Vocabulary Literacy

Expression: Speaking

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
VL.EXP.S.30 Use vocabulary to create specific reactions or effects when speaking in various classroom and digital situations.	Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38