



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 Montana standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge-building of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Montana standards and *Arts & Letters* follows.

Reading - Comprehension

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.6.RC.1</p> <p>Cite textual evidence that supports analysis of what a text explicitly states, as well as inferences drawn from the text, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses this standard using texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples in grade level 5, Module 1.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 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, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39</p>
<p>MT.6.RC.2</p> <p>Provide an objective summary of the text.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 23, 25, 26</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lesson 28</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lesson 3</p>
<p>MT.6.RC.3</p> <p>Determine a theme or central idea of a text and explain how it is conveyed through particular details, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses this standard using texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples in grade level 5, Module 1.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 7, 21, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 10, 19, 26, 30, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 15, 18, 31</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 23, 27</p>
<p>MT.6.RC.4</p> <p>Determine how elements of a text are developed and build toward a conclusion.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 29</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 12, 15, 21, 23</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.6.RC.5</p> <p>Analyze the impact of specific word choice on meaning and tone, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 15, 27, 31</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lesson 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 7, 10, 14, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 13, 26</p>
<p>MT.6.RC.6</p> <p>Analyze how a sentence, section, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure or theme of a text.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 5, 20, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 6, 9, 25, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 13, 17, 25, 26, 28, 30</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 5, 6, 10, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21</p>
<p>MT.6.RC.7</p> <p>Describe how an author's background and lived experiences affect the points of view in texts, including culturally diverse texts and those that represent the perspectives of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address describing how an author's background and lived experiences affect the points of view in texts through texts that represent the perspectives of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 8, 29</p>
<p>MT.6.RC.8</p> <p>Compare and contrast texts in different genres in terms of their approaches to similar topics, including culturally diverse texts and those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address comparing and contrasting texts in different genres in terms of their approaches to similar topics through texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 16</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 5, 7, 29, 30, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 6, 9, 13, 14, 15, 24, 27</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 6, 22, 23, 25</p>

Reading - Fluency

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.6.RFL.1 Read grade-appropriate texts with sufficient accuracy, rate, and prosody to support comprehension.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 28 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 31 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3</p>

Reading - Foundational

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.6.RFO.1 Decode multisyllabic words accurately using combined knowledge of letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morpheme structures.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3</p>

Research and Inquiry

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.6.RI.1 Conduct research projects that answer a question, drawing on several reliable sources.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 30 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 Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 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</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.6.RI.2</p> <p>Gather and determine the credibility of multiple sources; quote or summarize the information and provide a list of sources.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 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</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 36</p>
<p>MT.6.RI.3</p> <p>Analyze the relationship between primary and secondary sources by conducting short research projects using sources from diverse cultural perspectives, including those written by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address analyzing the relationship between primary and secondary sources by conducting short research projects using sources through texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>

Reading - Vocabulary

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.6.RV.1</p> <p>Infer the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in fiction and nonfiction texts, including words and phrases with cultural significance to Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address inferring the meaning of words and phrases with cultural significance to Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 15, 27, 31</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 6, 16, 22, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 2, 7, 10, 12, 14, 27, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 26</p>

Speaking and Listening

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.6.SL.1</p> <p>Engage in a range of collaborative discussions with a variety of partners on topics, texts, and issues.</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>MT.6.SL.2</p> <p>Summarize and explain information presented in diverse media formats and how the format contributes to a topic, text, or issue.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 8, 26, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 7, 21, 27</p>
<p>MT.6.SL.3</p> <p>Describe a speaker's argument and specific claims, considering the speaker's perspective.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 8, 9, 16, 22, 23, 24, 30, 33</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 4, 5, 11, 15, 20, 21, 25, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 22, 24, 28, 30, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 4, 6, 11, 20, 28, 30</p>
<p>MT.6.SL.4</p> <p>Present information using reasons and evidence appropriate for the context, sequencing ideas logically.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 7, 21, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 10, 19, 26, 30, 36, 37, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 18, 31, 36, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 23, 27, 37, 38, 39</p>

Writing

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.6.W.1</p> <p>Write arguments using claims supported with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</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>MT.6.W.2</p> <p>Write informative texts on a topic that convey ideas through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.</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>MT.6.W.3</p> <p>Write narratives about real or imagined events, using narrative techniques to engage the reader.</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>MT.6.W.4</p> <p>Develop and strengthen the writing process by planning, revising, editing, implementing feedback, or trying a new approach.</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> <p>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</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 33, 35</p>
<p>MT.6.W.5</p> <p>Write a cohesive, multi-paragraph text using a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 22, 23, 32, 33, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 19, 20, 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 18, 19, 22, 30, 31, 32, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 34, 35</p>
<p>MT.6.W.6</p> <p>Demonstrate grade-level appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</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, 32</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 8, 24</p>

Literary Practice

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.LP.1</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 1 is to practice broad literacy engagement. Literate students routinely read a broad range of literary and informational texts for a variety of purposes.</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, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</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</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, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32</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</p>
<p>MT.LP.2</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 2 is to practice collaboration. Literate students collaborate with others using active communication skills.</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>MT.LP.3</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 3 is to practice creativity. Literate students engage creatively to express their thoughts, deepen their understanding, and make connections.</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 4, Lessons 34, 35, 36, 37, 38</p>
<p>MT.LP.4</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 4 is to practice critical thinking. Literate students analyze, reason, problem-solve, and make decisions.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 15, 20, 21, 27, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 5, 9, 10, 16, 18, 19, 26, 29, 30, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 17, 18, 24, 26, 28, 30, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 17, 23, 26, 27, 28, 30, 39</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.LP.5</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 5 is to practice cultural considerations. Literate students acknowledge and respect diverse cultural perspectives, including those of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses this standard using texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples in grade level 5, Module 1.</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>MT.LP.6</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 6 is to practice effective communication. Literate students routinely express their ideas through speaking and writing coherently in a broad range of literary and informational genres.</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 10, 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>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 23, 27, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38</p>
<p>MT.LP.7</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 7 is to practice strategic technology use. Literate students effectively and responsibly use technology to access and evaluate information to express ideas.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 10, 12, 22</p>
<p>MT.LP.8</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 8 is to practice student agency. Literate students take an active role in their learning, using guidance and feedback to connect their skills and knowledge to practical applications, college readiness, and career development.</p>	<p>Level 6, Module 1, Lessons 7, 21, 32, 38</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 10, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 36, 37, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 3, Lessons 18, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 36, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 6, Module 4, Lessons 7, 23, 27, 38</p>