



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 Arts & Letters
<p>MT.7.RC.1</p> <p>Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support 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 7, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 36</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 39</p>
<p>MT.7.RC.2</p> <p>Provide an objective summary of the text.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, 24, 25</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 7, 11, 31</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lesson 9</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lesson 26</p>
<p>MT.7.RC.3</p> <p>Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address determining a theme or central idea of a text and analyzing its development over the course of the text.</p> <p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 11, 21, 31</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 15, 22, 29</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11, 21, 32</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 13, 30</p>
<p>MT.7.RC.4</p> <p>Analyze how particular elements of a text interact throughout its development.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17, 19, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
	Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 34 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 14, 17, 18, 25, 27, 29, 30 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 18, 19, 21, 22, 27, 28, 30, 39
MT.7.RC.5 Determine the shades of meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical language, and their impact on meaning and tone.	Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 16, 18, 19 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 5, 9, 14, 20, 21, 27 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 28, 29 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 3, 7, 18, 24, 29
MT.7.RC.6 Analyze how a text's form or structure contributes to its meaning.	Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 10, 20 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11 Level 7, Module 4, Lesson 6
MT.7.RC.7 Describe how an author's background and lived experiences affect the points of view in texts, including in culturally diverse texts and those that represent the perspectives of Montana Indigenous Peoples.	<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 through texts that represent the perspectives of Montana Indigenous Peoples. Level 7, Module 3, Lesson 28
MT.7.RC.8 Analyze how two or more authors writing about the same topic present information, using culturally diverse texts from different genres, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.	<i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address analyzing how two or more authors writing about the same topic present information, using culturally diverse texts from different genres through texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples. Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 4, 8, 16, 18, 25, 32 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 4, 6, 9, 11, 16, 22, 27, 28, 31 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22, 33 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 8, 21, 23, 27

Reading - Fluency

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.7.RFL.1 Read grade-appropriate texts with sufficient accuracy, rate, and prosody to support comprehension.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 35 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 26</p>

Reading - Foundational

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.7.RFO.1 Decode multisyllabic words accurately using combined knowledge of letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morpheme structures.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</p>

Research and Inquiry

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.7.RI.1 Conduct research projects that answer self-generated questions, drawing on several reliable sources.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 35, 36, 37, 38 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37, 38 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.7.RI.2</p> <p>Gather and determine the credibility of multiple sources; use effective research strategies; quote, paraphrase, and summarize information; provide in-text citations and a bibliography.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 34, 35, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39</p>
<p>MT.7.RI.3</p> <p>Conduct short research projects to identify the role of story, narrative, and oral tradition using sources from diverse cultural perspectives, values, beliefs, and points of view, including those of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address conducting short research projects to identify the role of story, narrative, and oral tradition using sources from Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>

Reading - Vocabulary

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.7.RV.1</p> <p>Articulate the potential effect of a specific word choice on the meaning when given two-word choices in a set context, including words with cultural significance to Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address articulate the potential effect of a specific word choice on the meaning when given two-word choices in a set context through words with cultural significance to Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 4, 16, 18, 19</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 14, 20, 21, 27, 31</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 28, 29</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 3, 7, 18, 24, 29</p>

Speaking and Listening

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.7.SL.1</p> <p>Engage in a range of collaborative discussions with a variety of partners on topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 34</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 38, 39</p>
<p>MT.7.SL.2</p> <p>Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats and how the format contributes to a topic, text, or issue.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 3, 25</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 6, 7, 24, 27, 30</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 5, 13, 14</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 6, 14</p>
<p>MT.7.SL.3</p> <p>Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, determining the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence; identify the speaker's perspective.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 11, 31, 36, 38</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lesson 5</p>
<p>MT.7.SL.4</p> <p>Present information with relevant evidence in a focused, coherent manner appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.</p>	

Writing

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.7.W.1</p> <p>Write arguments that support claims and acknowledge a counterclaim with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>MT.7.W.2</p> <p>Write informative texts that examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of sufficient content.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>MT.7.W.3</p> <p>Write narratives about real or imagined experiences or events, establishing a clear context and point of view.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>MT.7.W.4</p> <p>Develop and strengthen the writing process by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, implementing feedback, or trying a new approach, focusing on purpose and audience.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 20, 22, 30, 32, 35, 36, 37, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lesson 35</p>
<p>MT.7.W.5</p> <p>Write a cohesive, multi-paragraph text using simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 21, 22, 31, 32, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 15, 16, 30, 31, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 29, 30, 31, 32, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 34, 35</p>
<p>MT.7.W.6</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 12, 17, 22, 28, 32</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 16, 30, 31, 38, 39</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
Demonstrate grade-level appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 11, 22, 33 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 14, 34

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 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31</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 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 34</p> <p>Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 38, 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 7, Module 1, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 34, 36, 38</p>
<p>MT.LP.4</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 6, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 30, 31, 36</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>Literacy practice standard 4 is to practice critical thinking. Literate students analyze, reason, problem-solve, and make decisions.</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 10, 14, 15, 21, 25, 28, 29, 34 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 6, 10, 11, 16, 20, 21, 28, 31, 32, 36 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 5, 6, 12, 13, 18, 20, 23, 24, 29, 39</p>
<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 7, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 34 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 39 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 38, 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 7, Module 1, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 13, 30, 34, 36, 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 7, Module 4, Lessons 10, 12, 23, 25</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</p>	<p>Level 7, Module 1, Lessons 11, 17, 21, 31, 32, 38, 39 Level 7, Module 2, Lessons 15, 16, 29, 31, 38</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
feedback to connect their skills and knowledge to practical applications, college readiness, and career development.	Level 7, Module 3, Lessons 11, 21, 31, 32, 36, 38 Level 7, Module 4, Lessons 13, 17, 30, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38