The Journey to Knowledge

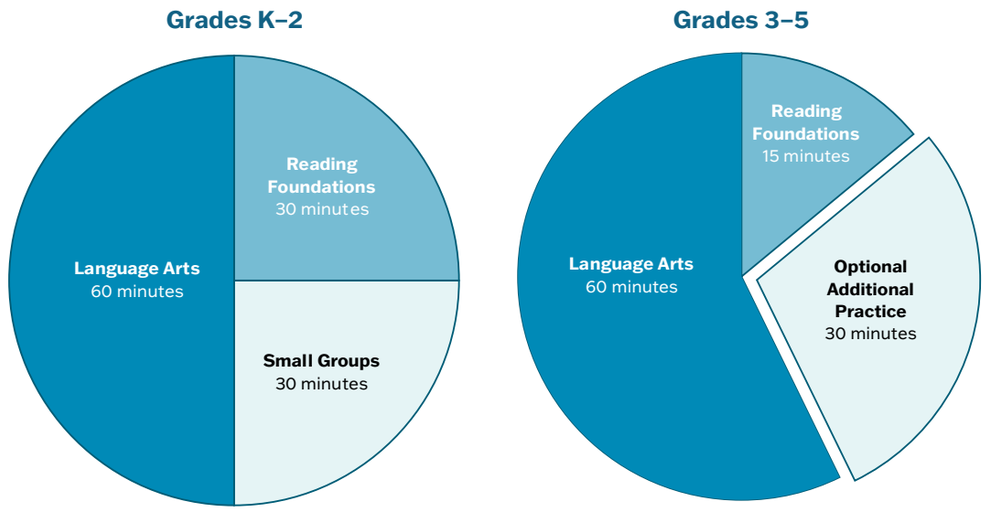
A walkthrough of the *Arts & Letters* Student Learning Experience

Knowledge grows one text, conversation, and discovery at a time.

In *Arts & Letters*®, students build knowledge by reading and thinking about the world around them. Through books, poetry, art, multimedia experiences, discussions, and writing, each module intentionally connects ideas, so students strengthen both their understanding of a topic and their literacy skills.

Arts & Letters brings knowledge, vocabulary, reading fluency, discourse, and writing together in one coherent experience.

Recommended *Arts & Letters* Literacy Block



Grades 6–8 offer 60 minutes of core ELA instruction, with pacing suggestions available for a 45-minute period.

Designed for Deeper Learning

Whole Books for Real Growth
Students build knowledge through authentic books and texts that inspire curiosity, spark conversation, and deepen understanding.

Integrated Knowledge Building
Every text, discussion, and writing task connects to previous learning, helping students develop knowledge that sticks.

Differentiation from the Start
Built-in scaffolds, language supports, and flexible pathways ensure all learners can engage with grade-level ideas and texts.

READ THE REPORT edreports REVIEW YEAR 2026

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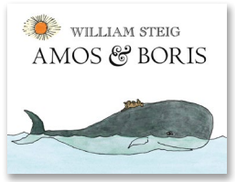
Grade 3 Module 1: *The Sea*

Essential Question: How do people explore the sea?

The ocean has inspired writers, artists, explorers, and scientists for centuries. Students investigate, interpret, and expand our understanding of the sea while connecting learning with science, geography, and visual art.

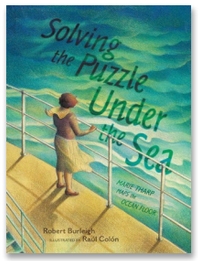
Module at a glance:
40 lessons, 60 minutes each; 5 books, 3 pieces of art, 1 poem, 1 short story, and 4 videos

Students build fluency through repeated reading, engage in rich text discussions, strengthen vocabulary and word analysis, and develop informative writing across the module. *Arts & Letters®: Reading Foundations* provides additional foundational skills practice aligned to *Arts & Letters®*: *Language Arts* topics.



Arc B

Set sail with unforgettable characters as students explore the ocean's wonders and begin crafting informative writing.



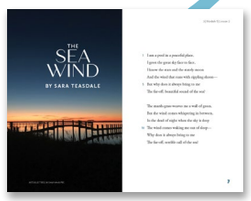
Arc D

Meet cartographer Marie Tharp and discover how new ideas can transform our understanding of the ocean.



Arc F

Bring together learning from across the module to craft, refine, and share an informative essay.



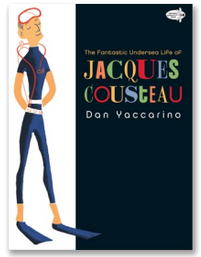
Arc A

Discover the ocean's beauty and power through poetry and art while building the fluency and close observation skills that launch the module.



Arc C

Join a real-life search for the elusive giant squid and use evidence from texts to explain new learning about the ocean.



Arc E

Explore Jacques Cousteau's innovations and deepen understanding of how exploration expands human knowledge.

Module Finale

Demonstrate learning by answering the Essential Question in an informative essay and engaging in a thoughtful Socratic seminar.

Learn more about the learning design behind *Arts & Letters*.

greatminds.org/english/artsletters

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