

Unit Goals

Word Power (a unit for gifted students in 4th-6th grades) addresses certain content and skill objectives expected of students in 5th-8th grades.

5th Grade

Competency Goal 1: The learner will apply enabling strategies and skills to read and write.

- 1.01 Expand and refine vocabulary through knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, roots, derivatives, context clues, and etymologies (word origins) to assist comprehension.
- 1.02 Select key vocabulary critical to the text and apply appropriate meanings as necessary for comprehension.
- 1.03 Gain reading and writing vocabulary through:
 - ❑ word study,
 - ❑ word reference materials,
 - ❑ writing as a tool, and
 - ❑ discussions.
- 1.04 Use word reference materials (e.g., glossary, dictionary, thesaurus, online reference tools) to identify and comprehend unknown words.
- 1.05 Read independently from self-selected materials (consistent with the student's independent reading level) on a daily basis to:
 - ❑ increase fluency,
 - ❑ build background knowledge, and
 - ❑ expand and refine vocabulary.

Competency Goal 2: The learner will apply strategies and skills to comprehend text.

- 2.01 Use metacognitive strategies independently and flexibly to monitor comprehension and extend vocabulary (e.g., skim, scan, and reread the text; consult other sources; ask for help; summarize; paraphrase; and question).

6th Grade

Competency Goal 2: The learner will explore and analyze information from a variety of sources.

- 2.01 Explore informational materials by:
- ❑ monitoring comprehension for understanding of what is read, heard, and viewed,
 - ❑ restating and summarizing information, and
 - ❑ drawing inferences and conclusions.

7th Grade

Competency Goal 5: The learner will respond to various literary genres using interpretive and evaluative processes.

- 5.01 Increase fluency, comprehension, and insight through a meaningful and comprehensive literacy program by:
- ❑ using effective reading strategies to match type of text, and
 - ❑ reading self-selected literature and other materials of individual interest.

Competency Goal 6: The learner will apply conventions of grammar and language usage.

- 6.01 Model an understanding of conventional written and spoken expression by:
- ❑ determining the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary words using context clues, a dictionary, a glossary, a thesaurus, or structural analysis (roots, prefixes, and suffixes) of words; and
 - ❑ extending vocabulary knowledge by learning and using new words.

8th Grade

Competency Goal 1: The learner will use language to express individual perspectives through analysis of personal, social, cultural, and historical issues.

- 1.02 Analyze expressive materials that are read, heard, or viewed by:
- ❑ monitoring comprehension for understanding of what is read, heard, or viewed,
 - ❑ drawing inferences,
 - ❑ generating a learning log or journal, and
 - ❑ maintaining an annotated list of works that are read or viewed, including personal reactions.