

Optimum Resource Inc.'s MiddleWare Software

New York State Standards - Eighth Grade - Language Arts	Vocabulary Development	Punctuation Rules	Reading Comprehension Series - Geography	Spelling Rules	Typing Workshop
Listening & reading to acquire information & understanding	✓		✓		
Interpret & analyze information from textbooks & nonfiction books			✓		
for young adults-reference materials, audio, media presentations, oral interviews, graphs, charts, diagrams, and electronic data bases intended for a general audience					
compare & synthesize information from different sources			✓		
use a wide variety of strategies for selecting, organizing, & categorizing information			✓		
distinguish between relevant & irrelevant information-fact & opinion	✓		✓		
relate new information to prior knowledge & experience					
understand & use the text features that make information accessible & usable					

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Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
information					
produce oral & written reports on topics related to all subjects			✓	✓	✓
establish an authoritative stance on the subject & provide					
references to establish the validity & verifiability					
organize information according to an identifiable structure			✓		
compare/contrast					
develop information with appropriate supporting material					
use the process of pre-writing, drafting, revising & proofreading					
to produce well-constructed informational texts					
use standard English for formal presentation of information,	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
vocabulary, sentence structures, punctuation, capitalization					
and spelling					

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Listening and reading for literary responses &	✓		✓		
expression					
read & view texts & performance from a wide range of authors			✓		
subjects, and genres					
understand & identify the distinguishing features of the major					
genres & use them to aid their interpretation & discussion					
of literature					
identify significant literary elements-symbolism, dialect, rhyme					
meter, irony, climax					
recognize different levels of meaning					
read aloud with expression, conveying the meaning & mood					
of a work					
evaluate literary merit based on an understanding of genre &	✓				
literary elements					

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Speaking and writing for literary response	✓	✓		✓	✓
present responses to & interpretations of literature, making	✓				
reference to the literary elements found in the text & connections					
with their personal knowledge & experience					
produce interpretations of literary works that identify different					
levels of meaning & comment on their significance & effect					
write stories, poems, literary essays, and plays that observe the	✓	✓		✓	✓
conventions of the genre & contain interesting & effective					
language and voice					
use standard English effectively					
Listening and reading to analyze and evaluate			✓		
experiences, ideas, information, and issues			✓		
analyze, interpret, & evaluate information, ideas, organization			✓		
& language from academic & nonacademic texts					

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assess the quality of texts & presentations, using criteria related			✓		
to genre, the subject area, & purpose					
understand that within any group there are man different points of					
view depending on the particular interests and values of the					
individual, & recognize those differences in perspective in texts					
and presentations					
evaluate their own and others' work based on a variety of criteria					
Speaking and writing for critical analysis and	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
evaluation					
present clear analyses of issues, ideas, texts, and experiences			✓		
supporting their positions with well developed argument					

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develop arguments with effective use of details & evidence that			✓		
reflect a coherent set of criteria					
monitor and adjust their own oral and written presentations	✓			✓	
according to the to the standards for a particular genre					
use standard English, precise vocabulary to influence an audience	✓	✓		✓	✓
Language for Social Interaction - Listening and					
Speaking					
listen attentively to others & build on others' ideas in conversation					
with peers and adults					
express ideas & concerns clearly & respectfully					
learn some words & expressions in another language to					
communicate with a peer or adult who speaks that language					
use verbal and nonverbal skills to improve communication with					
others					

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Read & Writing for Social Interaction	✓	✓			
write social letters, cards, and electronic messages to friends		✓			
relatives, community acquaintances, and other electronic					
network users					
use appropriate language & style for the situation & the audience	✓				
& take into account the ideas and interests expressed by the					
person receiving the message					
read & discuss social communications & electronic communication					
of other writers & use some of the techniques of those writers					