



Common Core State Standards - Grade 8

English Language Arts

Reading Standards for Literature

Key Ideas and Details		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.1	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. ● link to a style guide in challenge activities for students to use to create proper citations.
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot, and provide an objective summary of the text. ● use the Beanstack book review feature for students to write an objective summary of the text.
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.3	Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to require students to analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision. ● assign and link to dramas within the Beanstack Genre Challenge and require students' to analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.

Craft and Structure		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings. ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.5	Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to require students to compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style. ● assign and link two or more texts from your library's collections within a challenge's reading list to compare and contrast the structure of the texts.
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.6	Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to require students to analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader create such effects as suspense or humor.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		

Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.7	Analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors. ● assign and link written stories or dramas with filmed or live productions of the texts from your library's collections within a challenge's reading list. ● customize the Beanstack Genre Challenge to cover dramas and analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a drama stays faithful to or departs from the script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.
CCSS.ELA.RL.8.9	Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.
Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:

CCSS.ELA.RL.8.10	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize the Beanstack Poetry Challenge and Genre Challenge to include specific poems, genres, texts, and resources in the grades 6–8 text complexity band. ● activate the Read the Classics (Middle School) reading list challenge to assign classic titles like “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” and “Little Women,” which students can read directly in Beanstack. ● provide integrated reading content and links to library materials for students to read and comprehend. ● track students’ reading logs with various reports and insights that assess reading habits, which correlate to grade-level reading proficiency and comprehension. ● create compelling reading challenges, badges, and rewards to motivate students to read independently. ● run reading competitions and encourage students to build reading streaks by logging daily reading sessions. ● assign and track student comprehension of a literary text using reading validation challenges.
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Reading Standards for Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.1	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● link to a style guide in challenge activities for students to use to create proper citations.

	the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. ● assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections and require students to cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.2	Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas, and provide an objective summary of the text. ● assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections and require students to determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text. ● use the Beanstack book review feature for students to write an objective summary of the text.
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.3	Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events. ● assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections and require students to analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events.
Craft and Structure		

Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. ● assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections and require students to determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. ● instruct students using a read-aloud and think-aloud, then assist students in determining the meaning of words and phrases, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choice on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.5	Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept. ● assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections and require students to analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

CCSS.ELA.RI.8.6	Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students’ abilities to determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints. ● assign Beanstack’s curated ebook challenge collections and require students to determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.7	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● assign Beanstack’s curated ebook challenge collections and require students to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums to present a particular topic or idea. ● customize challenge activities to assess students’ abilities to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums to present a particular topic or idea. ● assign and link stories in different mediums from your library’s collections within a challenge’s reading list.
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.8	Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students’ abilities to delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced. ● assign Beanstack’s curated ebook challenge collections and

	introduced.	require students to delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.9	Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation. • assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections and require students to analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation. • assign and link two or more texts from your library's collections that provide conflicting information on the same topic within a challenge's reading list.
Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.RI.8.10	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assign Beanstack's curated ebook challenge collections that feature nonfiction content. • provide integrated reading content and link to library materials for students to read and comprehend. • track students' reading logs with various reports and insights that assess reading habits, which correlate to grade-level reading proficiency and comprehension.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● create compelling reading challenges, badges, and rewards to motivate students to read informational texts independently. ● run reading competitions and encourage students to build reading streaks by logging daily reading sessions. ● assign and track student comprehension of informational texts using reading validation challenges.
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Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.W.8.1	<p>Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</p> <p>a. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.</p> <p>b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.</p> <p>c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. ● link resources in challenge activities that provide examples of grade-appropriate argument writing. ● link to a style guide in challenge activities for students to use to create proper citations. ● link resources in challenge activities that provide examples of accurate, credible sources.

	<p>relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.</p> <p>d. Establish and maintain a formal style.</p> <p>e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.</p>	
CCSS.ELA.W.8.2	<p>Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.</p> <p>a. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</p> <p>b. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.</p> <p>c. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.</p> <p>d. Use precise language and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to include composing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content. ● assign Beanstack’s curated ebook challenge collections and require students to write an informative/explanatory text based on the topic of the collection. ● link resources in challenge activities that provide grade-level informative texts and examples of grade-appropriate informative/explanatory writing.

	<p>domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.</p> <p>e. Establish and maintain a formal style.</p> <p>f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.</p>	
CCSS.ELA.W.8.3	<p>Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.</p> <p>a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.</p> <p>b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.</p> <p>c. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to include composing narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences. ● link resources in challenge activities that provide examples of grade-appropriate narrative writing, including well-structured event sequences, narrative techniques, orienting the reader by establishing a context, introducing a narrator and/or characters, and providing a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

	<p>d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.</p> <p>e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.</p>	
Production and Distribution of Writing		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.W.8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> customize challenge activities to include texts and resources that can be used to support students in producing their own writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
CCSS.ELA.W.8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently, link to and cite sources, as well as interact and collaborate with others.
Research to Build and Present Knowledge		
Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment

	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.W.8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • launch a short research project using Beanstack's curated ebook reading challenges and add challenge activities that ask students to answer a question (including a self-generated question), draw on several sources, and generate additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration. • customize challenge activities to require students to conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources, and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
CCSS.ELA.W.8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • link resources within and customize challenge activities to provide students with sources to gather information, assess their credibility and accuracy, quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others, and follow a standard format for citation.
CCSS.ELA.W.8.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • link resources within and customize challenge activities to provide students with literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Language Standards

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

Standard	Description	Beanstack Alignment
	Students can:	Media specialists/teachers can:
CCSS.ELA.L.8.4	<p>Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.</p> <p>a. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.</p> <p>b. Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., precede, recede, secede).</p> <p>c. Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.</p> <p>d. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● instruct students using a text to read aloud and think aloud, then assist students in using context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase. ● customize challenge activities to assess students’ abilities to determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases. ● link reference materials in challenge activities to aid students in finding the pronunciation, determining or clarifying the precise meaning, and finding the part of speech, of key words and phrases.
CCSS.ELA.L.8.5	Demonstrate understanding of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● instruct students using a text to read aloud and think aloud, then

	<p>figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p> <p>a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., verbal irony, puns) in context.</p> <p>b. Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.</p> <p>c. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute).</p>	<p>assist students in understanding figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to demonstrate an understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. ● link resources in challenge activities to aid students in interpreting figures of speech in context, distinguishing among the connotations of words with similar denotations, and demonstrating an understanding of the relationships between particular words to better understand each of the words.
CCSS.ELA.L.8.6	<p>Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● use the Beanstack book review feature for students to review a text and accurately use grade-appropriate academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that are important to comprehension or expression. ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to acquire and use academic and domain-specific words and phrases accurately. ● customize challenge activities to assess students' abilities to gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.