



Curriculum Corner



Welcome to our Curriculum Corner!

This month's update is focused on Language Arts and Literature and ways you can connect at home.

All students in Alberta are experiencing these revised curricula:

- Kindergarten to Grade 3 English Language Arts & Literature (ELAL)
- Kindergarten to Grade 3 Mathematics
- Kindergarten to Grade 6 PE and Wellness

As well, most teachers in GPPSD are optionally implementing Grade 4 to 6 ELAL and Math and or piloting Kindergarten to Grade 6 Science.



What is English Language Arts & Literature (ELAL)?

This curriculum focuses on developing the ability of students to communicate effectively in different situations - to inform, persuade, or entertain.

Literacy has traditionally been thought of as reading and writing. These are essential parts of literacy, yet today our understanding of literacy encompasses much more.

Alberta Education defines literacy as the ability, confidence and willingness to engage with language to acquire, construct and communicate meaning in all aspects of daily living. Language is explained as a socially and culturally constructed system of communication.



As children enter the school system, there is a strong focus on developing reading and writing skills. Children engage in learning opportunities that have them interacting with many different forms of text, in print and digital forms, using words, visuals and graphics. Students begin to learn

- the rules of language
- how to acquire information, evaluate it, and ethically use it
- how to construct meaning from various kinds of text and
- how to communicate effectively

As students move through the school system, they refine their foundational skills as they explore various texts and technologies. The vast amounts of information available through both print and the Internet and the ability to communicate with varied audiences around the globe have expanded the ways our students read and communicate. Literacy for our students today also means preparing them to be critical and ethical information consumers.



What This Means for Your Child

This means your child will learn to think about ideas and information and explore creative expression individually and with others.

Here are some general tips for you to continue supporting your child:

- Visit your local library and read together.
- Use oral storytelling to extend your child's speaking and listening skills by encouraging your child to talk about their favourite toy, another family member or a pet.
- Cut out pictures from magazines and create speech bubbles and dialogue to create a story.
- Encourage your child to write the shopping list or add items to a list.
- Make words using magnetic letters on the fridge.
- Name your child's belongings and talk about the letter and sounds in their name.
- Put post-it notes on objects around the house so your child can read and learn new words every day.

If you want to learn more about Curriculum Content and Implementation plans:

- Speak with your teacher or your school Administrators.
- Visit: [K to 6 curriculum renewal | Alberta.ca](https://www.alberta.ca/k-to-6-curriculum-renewal)

Watch for next month's issue on PE & Wellness and ways to connect at home.