

Florida Standards Implementation Guide



Literacy in the Content Areas

Complex Texts & Academic Vocabulary

To be college and career ready, students must possess the ability to interpret knowledge and new ideas in complex text, synthesize the new information and communicate effectively.

Reading and writing standards for literacy, a subsection of the Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS), specifically integrate English language arts and history/social studies, science and technical subjects. These standards promote student interaction with increasingly complex disciplinary topics and content-rich vocabulary. Kindergarten to grade 5 integrate literacy into elementary courses using the LAFS. Grades 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12 use the specific reading and writing standards for literacy included in the secondary level content area coursework.

Building Knowledge

Reading and writing standards for literacy in content areas build student content knowledge and literacy skills concurrently. Key ideas and details; craft and structure; integration of knowledge; range of reading; and levels of text complexity are routinely practiced through informational texts, technical journals, data bases and primary and secondary sources. Integrating quantitative and qualitative analysis with content-rich texts and appropriate standards-based instruction provides all students with extensive opportunities to develop strong content area knowledge, acquire disciplinary vocabulary and learn about the world around them on their path to college and career readiness.

Text Based Evidence

Reading and writing standards for literacy included in course descriptions require all students to engage in disciplinary, evidence-based speaking, listening, reading and writing. The standards for literacy emphasize citing and integrating evidence from multiple texts and different mediums to accurately produce and synthesize information, engage in analysis, and support claims for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes and audiences.

