Common Core Alignment Overview

Junior Great Books activities develop students’ reading, critical thinking, writing, and listening and speaking skills. This document details the alignment of Series 3 activities with the Common Core State Standards. For unit-specific alignments, please see store.greatbooks.org.

Prereading

Reading Standards for Literature

RL.3.7. Explain how specific aspects of a text’s illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character setting).

Speaking and Listening Standards

SL.3.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

SL.3.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

SL.3.6. Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

First Reading with Sharing Questions

Reading Standards for Literature

RL.3.1. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

RL.3.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

RL.3.5. Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
**Reading Standards: Foundational Skills**

RF.3.4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

**Speaking and Listening Standards**

SL.3.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

SL.3.6. Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

**Second Reading**

**Reading Standards for Literature**

RL.3.1. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

RL.3.3. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

RL.3.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

RL.3.5. Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

**Reading Standards: Foundational Skills**

RF.3.3. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

RF.3.4. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

**Writing Standards**

W.3.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

W.3.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
Speaking and Listening Standards

SL.3.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

SL.3.2. Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

SL.3.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

SL.3.6. Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

Shared Inquiry Discussion

Reading Standards for Literature

RL.3.1. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

RL.3.2. Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

RL.3.3. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

RL.3.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

RL.3.5. Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

RL.3.6. Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

RL.3.7. Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character setting).
Writing Standards

W.3.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

Speaking and Listening Standards

SL.3.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

SL.3.2. Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

SL.3.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

Written Response

Reading Standards for Literature

RL.3.1. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

RL.3.2. Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

RL.3.3. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

RL.3.5. Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

RL.3.7. Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character setting).

Writing Standards

W.3.1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

W.3.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

W.3.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
W.3.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

W.3.5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

W.3.8. Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.

**Creative Response**

**Reading Standards for Literature**

RL.3.2. Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

RL.3.3. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

RL.3.5. Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

**Writing Standards**

W.3.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

W.3.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

W.3.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

W.3.6. With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

W.3.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Speaking and Listening Standards**

SL.3.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
SL.3.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

SL.3.6. Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

**Curriculum Connections and Theme Connections**

**Reading Standards for Literature**

RL.3.5. Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

RL.3.9. Compare and contrast themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).

**Writing Standards**

W.3.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

W.3.6. With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

W.3.7. Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

W.3.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Speaking and Listening Standards**

SL.3.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

SL.3.4. Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

SL.3.6. Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.
Reader’s Journal

**Reading Standards for Literature**

**RL.3.1.** Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

**RL.3.2.** Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

**RL.3.3.** Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

**RL.3.5.** Refer to parts of stories, drama, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

**Writing Standards**

**W.3.1.** Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

**W.3.2.** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

**W.3.3.** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

**W.3.4.** With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

**W.3.5.** With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

**W.3.8.** Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.

**W.3.10.** Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.