



STCA Year-at-a-Glance Curriculum

Subject: ELA

Grade-Level: 8th Grade

Focus: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, Language

Textbook Resource(s): Wit and Wisdom

Other Resource(s): i-Ready, IXL, Achieve 3000, selected novel studies and mentor texts

Wit and Wisdom offers modules, or units of study. Each module integrates reading, writing, and language skills. Each module has an **essential question** that guides our study. Below, please find detailed information on each module's focus of study and end-of-unit product.

Trimester 1 (August-January)	Trimester 2 (February-June)
<p>Module 1: <i>The Poetics and Power of Storytelling</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the power of storytelling? ● Portfolio of three poems, of distinct style, that together tell a story of a significant time in their life, inspired by Kwame Alexander's <i>The Crossover</i> ● Language Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commas, ellipses, and dashes ○ Verbs in different moods ○ Variety of sentence types in writing ○ Figures of speech in context ○ Determine meaning of unknown words <p>Module 2: <i>The Great War</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How do literature and art illuminate the effects of World War I? ● Informative Writing: Writing on the essential question (above), informed by the following texts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> by Erich Maria Remarque ● Language Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Different verb moods ○ Active and passive verb voices ○ Clear and precise language ○ Connotations and denotations of words 	<p>Module 3: <i>What is love?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is love? ● Argumentative Writing: Writing on the essential question (particularly whether love is a result of agency or an outcome directed by fate), informed by the following texts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> by William Shakespeare ● Language Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop word knowledge using reference texts ○ Distinguish among connotations of words with similar denotations <p>If time allows, students will also delve into:</p> <p>Module 4: <i>Teens as Change Agents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How do people effect social change? ● Informational writing on the essential question, informed by individual research and evidence from module text <i>Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice</i> by Phillip Hoose ● Language Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Active and passive verbs and conditional and subjective moods in speaking and writing ○ Verbals and their functions ○ Words through context clues

