

# Grade 7 units

## 7A: *Red Scarf Girl* & Narrative



i ●●●●● QT: 780L  
●●●●● QL: 3  
●●●●● RT: 2

### BIG IDEA

The impact of social and political forces on individual experiences

### READING

Examine the differences between a character's thoughts and actions

### WRITING

Use revision to strengthen elaboration

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Narrative writing: Use dialogue, details, and description to bring a moment to life

Writing workshops: Respond with constructive comments to peers' writing

Author-led discussion: Watch videos of Ji-li Jiang, author of *Red Scarf Girl*, and discuss the role of propaganda in her world

### TEXT FEATURES

Memoir of the Chinese Cultural Revolution, historical propaganda images

## 7B: Character & Conflict



i ●●●●● QT: 870L–1400L  
●●●●● QL: 3  
L ●●●●● RT: 3

### BIG IDEA

The impact of societal restrictions and racism on individual dreams and family dynamics

### READING

Analyze a character's unconscious motivations

### WRITING

Make thematic connections across genres

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Performance: Interpret text details by acting out scenes from *A Raisin in the Sun*

Integrate media formats: Compare and contrast film versions of a play with the original script

Quest: Explore the world of mid-20th century Chicago through photographs, speeches, and documents

### TEXT FEATURES

Memoir, poetry, mid-20th-century drama about a Black family

## 7C: Brain Science



i ●●●●● QT: 970L–1420L  
●●●●● QL: 4  
●●●●● RT: 4

### BIG IDEA

Brain development and brain disorders

### READING

Synthesize central ideas developed throughout text sections and across text features

### WRITING

Describe facts, explain concepts, and use logical reasoning to support claims

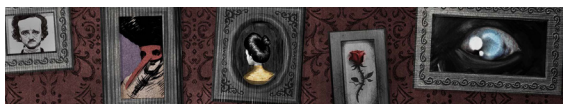
### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Quest: Move through a school day with one of the brain disorders described in Oliver Sacks's book *The Man Who Mistook His Wife For a Hat* to learn how these disorders affect perception.

### TEXT FEATURES

Narrative and informational nonfiction about discoveries in brain science

## 7D: Poetry & Poe



**L** ●●●●● QT: 800L–1530L  
●●●●● QL: 4  
●●●●● RT: 3

### BIG IDEA

Visual storytelling and the art of suspense

### READING

Analyze the influence of unreliable narrators

### WRITING

Compare and contrast characters' perspectives

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Storyboard app: Use a digital storyboard to visualize different perspectives in "The Tell-Tale Heart"

Debate: Apply a legal definition and argue a narrator's sanity

Integrate media formats: Write a movie review that compares and contrasts an animated adaptation with the original text

### TEXT FEATURES

American poetry and Gothic literature with unreliable narrators

## 7E: The Frida & Diego Collection



**i** ●●●●● QT: 910L–1430L  
●●●●● QL: 5  
**L** ●●●●● RT: 4

### BIG IDEA

Art as personal, cultural, and political expression

### READING

Analyze how figurative language conveys an author's tone and perspective

### WRITING

Synthesize information from several sources to develop an argument

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Creative writing: Compare Frida and Diego's writing to a Shakespearean sonnet and create your own

Socratic seminar: Engage in student-led discussions about research topics

Multimedia presentation: Create a digital collage to present individual insights to the class

### TEXT FEATURES

Paintings, memoirs, articles, letters portraying unconventional artists

## 7F: The Gold Rush Collection



**i** ●●●●● QT: 1020L–1600L  
●●●●● QL: 4  
**L** ●●●●● RT: 4

### BIG IDEA

The diverse characters and disparate conditions of the California Gold Rush

### READING

Compare and contrast how authors with differing perspectives address related topics

### WRITING

Develop a question, conduct research, and create a multimedia project

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Role-play: Assume the identity of a gold rush participant and write a diary from their point of view

Develop information literacy: Evaluate the reliability and credibility of online informational sources

Multimedia presentation: Create an interactive timeline to illustrate research findings

### TEXT FEATURES

Primary and secondary source documents, poems, lyrics, maps, and images