

**English Language Arts   Brunswick School Department**  
**Grade 7**  
**Study of Literature**  
**Novels, Short Stories, Poetry and Mythology**

<b>Essential Understandings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good readers use skills and strategies of the reading process to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate what they have read.</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How does character analysis lead to a deeper understanding of a story?</li> <li>▪ How are the elements of fiction interrelated?</li> <li>▪ What is theme and why is it important?</li> <li>▪ How does figurative language contribute to the meaning of a literary text?</li> <li>▪ How can applying reading strategies contribute to a more meaningful understanding of the text?</li> <li>▪ Why did societies develop myths?</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Authors use a variety of methods to make a character seem real.</li> <li>▪ Authors use dialogue to characterize.</li> <li>▪ Conflict advances the story.</li> <li>▪ Plot elements (introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and conclusion) are interrelated.</li> <li>▪ Theme is an implied statement that the author makes about life.</li> <li>▪ Authors use specific literary devices to involve readers.</li> <li>▪ Good readers understand the structure of literary texts.</li> <li>▪ Reading strategies allow the reader to better comprehend a text.</li> <li>▪ Myths reflect the social and cultural context in which they were created.</li> </ul>
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Terms</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ character, plot (introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, conclusion), theme, point of view, first person point of view, third person omniscient point of view, figurative language, imagery, simile, metaphor, free verse poetry, inferring, empathizing, abstract, concrete, flashback, alliteration, mythology</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Essential Skills</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify the main and subordinate characters in a text.</li> <li>▪ Identify and recognize methods of characterization used by an author: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ physical characteristics</li> <li>○ thoughts and feelings</li> <li>○ what the character says and does</li> <li>○ interactions with other characters</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Demonstrate how dialogue helps the reader better understand a character.</li> <li>▪ Identify the plot events (introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and conclusion) of a given literary text.</li> <li>▪ Define theme.</li> <li>▪ Identify theme in a literary work.</li> <li>▪ Identify the author's point of view (i.e., first person, third person omniscient).</li> <li>▪ Provide textual evidence to explain and defend opinions formed while reading.</li> <li>▪ Explain how imagery and figurative language such as simile and metaphor contribute to the meaning of a text.</li> <li>▪ Identify how meaning is conveyed in poetry through word choice, syntax, line length, and punctuation.</li> <li>▪ Analyze how the cultural context may influence and be incidence by a literary work.</li> <li>▪ Analyze how the structure of free verse poetry supports the meaning of a poem.</li> <li>▪ Identify and apply the following reading strategies: (Review strategies introduced in grade 6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Inferring (draw a reasonable conclusion from hints or textual evidence)</li> <li>○ Empathizing (ask yourself what the character is feeling and how you would feel)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Identify the principle characters from Greek mythology.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Related Maine Learning Results</b></p>	<p><u>English Language Arts</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>***pending legislative approval of the 2007 revised Maine Learning Results</i></p>

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<b>Sample Lessons And Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Retell and analyze a myth.</li><li>▪ Read and analyze a poem.</li><li>▪ After reading a novel or short story, identify main ideas, make connections, and draw/support references.</li></ul>
<b>Sample Classroom Assessment Methods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Present myth retelling and share analysis.</li><li>▪ Complete a poetry constructed response.</li><li>▪ Develop and present a “strategy wheel project”.</li></ul>
<b>Sample Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <u>Publications:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Novel collection for grade 7</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Technology Link</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <a href="http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/curriculum">http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/curriculum</a></li></ul>