

# The Vermont Framework for Proficiency: English Language Arts Literacy

## Purpose

The literacy statement in this document was used to create an overarching Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirement for English Language Arts that guided the development of Critical Proficiencies and Priority Performance Indicators. The literacy statement reflects the connections between a Vermont Portrait of a Graduation and the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts.

## English Language Arts Literacy

Communication is at the heart of literacy in English Language Arts (ELA); therefore, an individual who is ELA literate can create and present information, as well as receive and critique it, both in speech and in writing. The ELA literate individual can use a variety of media to successfully present information, expressing themselves clearly to multiple audiences, using vocabulary appropriately, and adjusting their language accordingly. They can also develop, maintain, and communicate their own point of view or message while taking into consideration the diverse perspectives of others. In addition, individuals who are literate in ELA can engage with complex literary and informational texts for a variety of purposes. They can effectively receive information, either through close reading or active listening. This involves comprehending, interpreting, analyzing, and synthesizing that information by identifying key details and using them to summarize what they have read or heard. It also involves evaluating the information and its source for validity, reliability, and potential biases. The ELA literate individual knows how to communicate in a way that reflects their authentic selves, their beliefs, and their opinions, all of which are informed by evidence as well as experience.

## English Language Arts Connections to the Vermont Portrait of a Graduate

The capacity to engage in respectful discourse, to effectively express oneself while listening and responding to diverse perspectives, is an important skill for any global citizen. Literacy skills are also essential when thinking about lifelong learning. Students can gain experience toward proficiency in these aspects of a [Vermont Portrait of a Graduate](#) (PoG) and more through English Language Arts (ELA).

## Contact Information:

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