

Literacy For Families

You Are Your Child's First Teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Washington's academic standards and why they are important to your child. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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Seventh Grade

In seventh grade, students become critical consumers and communicators of information. They read print and digital texts on many topics from different cultures and time periods. They closely analyze texts and notice how words, structures, and text features are used to communicate with different audiences and for a variety of purposes. Students write in a variety of genres (text formats and styles), making purposeful choices about audience, purpose, and context to communicate effectively.



Below is a snapshot of what your student will learn about literacy this year and how you can support them in school and at home.

What Seventh-Graders Learn and Do



Analyze diverse texts (such as poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction) to understand themselves and the world around them.



Develop English proficiency by focusing on clear communication and understanding complex ideas in what they read, listen to, and view.



Write in various styles by adapting language and tone for different audiences and purposes. Incorporate digital elements, as needed.



Research using a variety of sources. Consider the reliability, purpose, and impact of messages from different types of media.



Participate in discussions and presentations to improve how they express ideas and actively listen to others, both in person and online.



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

How to Support Your Seventh-Grader with Literacy



Promote Literacy at Home

- Ask your student to identify an issue they are interested in (or help them identify one) and to present details on why it is important to them.
- Make time to discuss family history, family events, and current local or world issues from different perspectives.
- Find and post a family word of the week or month. Learn the word and use it in conversations with one another and in written communication.
- When reading or viewing text, commercials, news, movies, TV, and websites, discuss the perspectives of the authors and others who might agree or disagree. Ask your student what they think about the author's perspective and to share any additional information they have that supports or contradicts what the author thinks. Encourage your student to question what information may be missing.

Talk with Your Student

- Encourage your student to pick a book to read daily for fun. Ask them to summarize what they read and share their opinions and ideas.
- When your student reads a book, ask them what questions they would like to ask the author. Ask your student why they think the author used certain words or character actions and how those choices impact the meaning of the text.
- Find opportunities that fit your family's routines to help your student access books—whether through school, local libraries, digital apps, or shared books within your community.
- Help your student identify their strengths in English language arts (ELA) and areas where they feel confident. Encourage your student to share ideas, questions, and strategies they use in their ELA class. Support them to share this information with the teacher.

Partner with the School

- Ask your student's ELA teacher what students are learning in class. Share how it connects to your student's home life, community, and future goals.
- Communicate your student's strengths and interests to the teacher.
- Ask how students work with others to support learning.
- Ask the teacher how you, the teacher, and your student can work together to improve your student's literacy skills.
- If you have questions, or if your student needs extra help or is new to learning English, talk to your student's teacher, multilingual learner specialist, or individualized education program (IEP) team (if applicable).

