

8th Grade Report Card Skills:

Students Will Know/ Students Will Be Able To...

English I (Reading) Skills

Report Card Skill: Use examples from the text to explain and support ideas.	
For this skill, students will know: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• how to identify explicit and implicit information in a text.• inferences based off of explicit and implicit information within a text.• how to determine strongly supported details within a text.• objective summary.• the central idea of a text.	For this skill, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• explain what information is explicitly or implicitly stated.• make justifiable inferences based off of explicit and implicit information within a text.• identify details that strongly support the main idea of the text.• determine important information that should be used in a summary while keeping their summary unbiased.• identify the central idea of a text.

Report Card Skill: Identify and apply elements of a text.	
For this skill, students will know: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• theme, characters, setting, conflict, dialogue, and plot.• first, second, and third person point of view.• informational text structures (sequence, problem/solution, cause and effect, description, compare and contrast).• how text structure contributes to the main idea.	For this skill, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• identify the main theme and how it relates to the characters, setting, and plot.• identify main and supporting characters.• identify when and where a story takes place and how the setting contributes to the overall story.• identify and explain the rise and fall of action, including how dialogue affects the story.• identify how the problem/conflict is solved.• determine and provide evidence on what point of view the story is written in and explain the importance of writing it in that particular form.• identify how an author has organized the text and justify how the text structure contributes to the overall message of the text.

Report Card Skill: Correctly identify and use words in context.

For this skill, students will know:

- how to use context clues.
- common, grade appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots.
- figurative, connotative, and technical meanings of words.
- the impact of word choice, including its meaning and tone.
- many different types of figurative language

For this skill, students will be able to:

- determine the meaning of unknown words by using appropriate context clues.
- use common, grade appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meanings of a word.
- analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies and allusions to other texts.
- identify and interpret figurative language (allusions, analogies, hyperboles, idioms, metaphors, onomatopoeia, oxymorons, personifications, puns, similes, etc.) used in a text.

Report Card Skill: Compare/contrast different forms/versions of text.

For this skill, students will know:

- the similarities and differences between the print and film versions of the same text.
- how the similarities and differences of each medium add/subtract to the story.
- the advantages and disadvantages that different mediums have in determining how the information is depicted to its audience.

For this skill, students will be able to:

- explain and organize the similarities and differences between the print and film mediums.
- analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.
- determine and explain the advantages and disadvantages of each medium in regards to explaining the same text.

English II (Language Arts) Skills

Report Card Skill: Consistently structure writing appropriately according to audience and style.

For this skill, students will know:

- the differences between argumentative, informative/explanatory, and narrative structure.
- formal, MLA writing style.
- narrative techniques and structure.
- the importance of the writing process: planning, revising, editing, and rewriting.
- grade appropriate vocabulary words.

For this skill, students will be able to:

- introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow.
- use a thesis statement when appropriate.
- effectively use transitions as a part of paragraph format.
- provide an appropriate and well-developed conclusion.
- establish and maintain a formal writing style.
- orient and engage the reader by establishing context, point of view, setting, characters, etc.
- strengthen their writing with guidance and support from peers and adults.
- use vocabulary words appropriately in their own writing.

Report Card Skill: Provide a variety of textual support appropriate to writing task.

For this skill, students will know:

- how to support a claim in an argumentative paper.
- how to conduct short research projects to gather evidence to answer a question.
- how to write informative/ explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information.
- how to evaluate literary or informational texts, including digital sources.
- how to use narrative techniques appropriately.
- how to cite accurate, credible sources using proper MLA format.

For this skill, students will be able to:

- use both claims and counterclaims, then organize their reasons and evidence logically to support their claim.
- develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain a topic.
- draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- use descriptive details, well-structured event sequences, dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- cite accurate, credible sources when appropriate to the writing task.

Report Card Skill: Use writing conventions appropriately.

For this skill, students will know:

- standard English grammar conventions.
- a variety of sentence structures.

For this skill, students will be able to:

- demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking, including capitalization, spelling, and punctuation.
- identify and correctly use a wide variety of sentence types.

Report Card Skill: Produce and demonstrate a speech according to task, context, and audience.

For this skill, students will know:

- what it takes to engage the audience effectively in presentation, discussion, collaboration, and debate.
- the importance of presenting claims and emphasizing points, evidence and reasoning
- how to stand and speak appropriately.
- how to appropriately incorporate technology into a presentation.
- how to adapt a speech to fit specific parameters.

For this skill, students will be able to:

- engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions, building on others' ideas, and expressing their own clearly.
- present claims and findings with relevant evidence, sound reasoning, and well-chosen details.
- use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
- integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.
- adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when appropriate.

Report Card Skill: Identify and use parts of speech appropriately.

For this skill, students will know:

- the distinguishing characteristics of the various parts of speech (nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections).
- the functions of verbals (gerunds, participles, infinitives).
- how to form and use verbs in their various states.
- correct and incorrect shifts in verb voice and mood.

For this skill, students will be able to:

- accurately apply knowledge of the parts of speech to their own writing.
- correctly identify the parts of speech within various texts.
- explain the function of verbals in general and their function in particular sentences.
- form and use verbs in their various states (active and passive; indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood).
- recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.