

**Newton Public Schools
Newton, Massachusetts**

Library: Information Literacy and Technology Benchmarks, K-12

Curriculum Benchmarks

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Introduction

Empowering students to actively participate in our information rich society requires that they grow as independent, efficient, responsible, and creative users of information through the services of the library teacher and the resources of the library media center. By learning strategies to manage and ethically use information, Newton students experience the world in all its diversity.

Instruction and experience with information literacy, the ability to find and use information, is a gradual and sequential process of introduction, practice, and reinforcement at increasingly sophisticated levels throughout the student's educational experience. The library teachers have developed this curriculum document to explain the sequence of instruction required to help a student develop into a competent user of information and into an active, independent reader.

The key to implementing a successful information literacy program is collaboration and joint planning between the library teacher, the classroom teacher, and other members of the teaching staff. In the context of the Newton Public School's curricula, students gain essential understanding in locating, interpreting, synthesizing, evaluating, and communicating information. These outcomes and benchmarks will enable a student to meet the challenges of ever-changing technologies.

The responsibility for achieving the outcomes articulated in this document rests not only with the library teachers but also with the classroom teachers, the instructional technology specialists, and the school and district administrators.

Grades 6, 7, and 8
Library: Information Literacy and Technology

Outcome #1 Students will live out the system-wide core value of "Respect for Human Differences" by actively demonstrating anti-racist/anti-bias behaviors.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate anti-racist/anti-bias behaviors when interacting with others. • use myth, story, poetry, art, and other art forms from varying cultures to understand the human condition. • examine information gathered through research for bias, discrimination, and multiple perspectives. • respect the ideas and opinions of others. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate anti-racist/anti-bias behaviors when interacting with others. • use myth, story, poetry, art, and other art forms from varying cultures to understand the human condition. • examine information gathered through research for bias, discrimination, and multiple perspectives. • respect the ideas and opinions of others. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate anti-racist / anti-bias behaviors when interacting with others. • use myth, story, poetry, art, and other art forms from varying cultures to understand the human condition. • examine information gathered through research for bias, discrimination, and multiple perspectives. • respect the ideas and opinions of others.

Outcome #2 Students will identify an information need (Steps 1 and 2 of The Big 6).

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • begin to identify a research question. • begin to develop a research strategy (e.g., keywords, subjects). • brainstorm types of information needed and resources available. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • define/clarify a research question. • begin to develop a flexible research strategy (e.g., keywords, subjects). • brainstorm types of information needed and resources available. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • define/clarify a research question. • demonstrate a flexible research strategy (e.g., keywords, subjects). • brainstorm types of information needed and a wider array of resources available.

Outcome #3 Students will be able to locate appropriate library resources. (Step 2 of The Big 6)

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practice using the online catalog. • be introduced to a complex bibliographic record. • become familiar with different sections of the library and begin to find materials on shelf using the Dewey Decimal call number or letters, with assistance. • select materials appropriate for reading level. • begin to understand which resources are appropriate for their information need. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue using the online catalog. • practice reading and understanding a complex bibliographic record. • find materials on shelf using the Dewey Decimal call number or letters, with assistance. • select materials appropriate for reading level. • begin to select resources that are appropriate for their information need. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • become proficient in using the online catalog. • read and understand a complex bibliographic record. • distinguish when to use subject or keyword searching. find materials on shelf using the Dewey Decimal call number or letters. • select materials appropriate for reading level. • select independently resources that are appropriate for their

		information need.
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Outcome #4 Students will be able to access information from resources in a variety of formats. (Step 3 of The Big 6)

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and use locator features in print and electronic resources (e.g., index, table of contents, search function). • begin to refine or broaden search terms. • formulate a simple search for online text or images. • explore the difference between subject and keyword searching. • continue to expand library terminology. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and use locator features in print and electronic resources (e.g., index, table of contents, search function). • refine or broaden search terms. • refine online search skills. • practice using subject or keyword searching. • continue to expand library terminology. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and use locator features in print and electronic resources (e.g., index, table of contents, search function). • refine or broaden search terms. • conduct an advanced search (using Boolean logic, limiting by date, etc.). • continue to expand library terminology.

Outcome #5 Students will be able to evaluate, extract, and cite information. (Step 4 of The Big 6)

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • begin to evaluate print and electronic sources for content accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and authority. • skim and scan for information. • interpret and understand visual information. • practice basic note-taking skills. • be introduced to concepts of plagiarism and copyright. • record information sources in bibliographic format. • be able to navigate the Internet safely and be aware of safety issues while using the Internet. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practice evaluating print and electronic sources for content accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and authority. • skim and scan for information. • interpret and understand visual information. • refine basic note-taking skills. • expand understanding of concepts of plagiarism and copyright. • record information sources in bibliographic format. • be able to navigate the Internet safely and be aware of safety issues while using the Internet. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluate print and electronic sources for content accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and authority. • skim and scan more complex resources for information. • interpret and understand more complex visual information. • demonstrate note-taking skills. • expand understanding of concepts of plagiarism and copyright. • record information sources in bibliographic format. • be able to navigate the Internet safely and be aware of safety issues while using the Internet.

Outcome #6. Students will organize and synthesize information from multiple sources. (Step 5 of The Big 6)

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
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Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, listen, and view carefully to acquire information. • begin to identify information gaps and use library resources to fill them. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, listen, and view carefully to acquire information. • identify information gaps and use library resources to fill them. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read, listen, and view carefully to acquire information. • identify information gaps and use library resources to fill them.
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Outcome #7 Students will construct a knowledge product or presentation that communicates the results of their research.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will achieve this outcome by working with Instructional Technology Specialists and classroom teachers.	Students will achieve this outcome by working with Instructional Technology Specialists and classroom teachers.	Students will achieve this outcome by working with Instructional Technology Specialists and classroom teachers.

Outcome #8 Students will evaluate the final product and their research process. (Step 6 of The Big 6)

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will achieve this outcome by working with classroom teachers.	Students will achieve this outcome by working with classroom teachers.	Students will achieve this outcome by working with classroom teachers.

Outcome #9 Students demonstrate their understanding of the scope of literature resources that are available to them.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • differentiate between genres and between fiction and nonfiction. • understand that there are resources available in public libraries. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • differentiate between genres and between fiction and nonfiction. • understand that there are resources available in public libraries. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • differentiate between genres and between fiction and nonfiction. • understand that there are resources available in public libraries.

Outcome #10 Students use a variety of age-appropriate literature resources for independent learning and for pleasure reading.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be introduced to book selection strategies. • become familiar with young adult authors. • read literature that represents a range of cultures, perspectives, and experiences. • identify literature that they enjoy and be able to articulate why. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practice book selection strategies. • become familiar with young adult authors. • read literature that represents a range of cultures, perspectives, and experiences. • identify literature that they enjoy and be able to articulate why. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • utilize book selection strategies. • become familiar with young adult and adult authors. • read literature that represents a range of cultures, perspectives, and experiences. • identify literature that they enjoy and be able to articulate why.

Outcome #11 Students will be ethical and responsible library citizens.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstrate appropriate care for all library resources.• follow appropriate circulation procedures.• understand the importance of returning and renewing books in a timely manner.• pay for lost or damaged materials.• demonstrate respectful behavior and help maintain a productive learning environment.• use technology according to Newton's Internet Safety Policy.• understand concept of plagiarism.	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstrate appropriate care for all library resources.• follow appropriate circulation procedures.• understand the importance of returning and renewing books in a timely manner.• pay for lost or damaged materials.• demonstrate respectful behavior and help maintain a productive learning environment.• use technology according to Newton's Internet Safety Policy.• understand concept of plagiarism.	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstrate appropriate care for all library resources.• follow appropriate circulation procedures.• understand the importance of returning and renewing books in a timely manner.• pay for lost or damaged materials.• demonstrate respectful behavior and help maintain a productive learning environment.• use technology according to Newton's Internet Safety Policy.• understand concept of plagiarism.