

Resource Guide: Cross-Curricular Connections with Literacy

Vision:

New Mexico defines cross -curricular connections as connections between two or more areas of study made by teachers or students within the structure of a subject. By identifying and planning with cross-curricular connections in mind, instruction in literacy builds knowledge, and therefore comprehension, around a given topic. When these connections are paired with appropriately complex texts and high-quality tasks, rigorous and equitable literacy instruction happens for all New Mexico students.

Purpose:

Cross-curricular connections allow for planning around topics that will build knowledge and vocabulary. Connecting literacy to other content areas allows this development to continue throughout instruction. Planning with specific texts in mind, keeps the text at the center of unit and lesson planning. This allows the four core tenets of rigorous and equitable literacy instruction to exist for all New Mexico students.

Suggested Topics for Building Knowledge in 4th Grade:

Possible Topics for Building Knowledge:	Suggestions to consider when planning	Subject-areas and Standards that Align with this Topic
Tall Tales	 Incorporate: Literature study of tall tales Land Formations Map Skills/Data/Graphs/diagrams/tables/charts Creative Writing Computer Skills 	Social Studies Geography Content Standard II Benchmark IIA-IIB-IIC-IID
Migration/New Mexico History	 Incorporate: Consider New Mexico History through the lens of migration and resulting Cultural Contact (who immigrated, who was already here, what happened when new groups came together, what are more recent examples of migration) Cultural contact aspect provides many opportunities for compare/contrast, points of view What role did NM landforms play in cultural survival? Map skills Forced migration vs natural migration and finding available and relevant texts to support Perspectives and changing viewpoints How has the migration changed cultures? 	Social Studies <u>Content Standard I</u> Benchmarks IA-ID <u>Content Standard II</u> Benchmarks IIB 4.3; IIC 4.1, 4.2; IIE; <u>Content Standard III</u> Benchmark IIIB Science NGSS: 4-ESS3 Earth and Human Activity



		Public Education Departmen
Energy and Systems	Incorporate:	Geography
	Physical Science	NM Economics
	 Forms of energy 	NM History
	 Types of energy 	Science: Role of energy and
	 Natural resources 	how it impacts New Mexico
	 Conservation and transfer 	
	• Life Science	
	 internal and external structures 	
	that function to support survival	
	o growth, behavior	
	o reproduction	
	Earth Science	
	• Rock formations	
	 Weathering/erosion 	
	o Human impact	
	 energy and fuels are 	
	derived from natural	
	resources and their uses	
	affect the environment.	
	 Environmental impact on 	
	humans.	
Expansion of the US	Incorporate:	Social Studies
	Geographical Settlements	Science
	*Economic factors	U.S. History
	*Job opportunity	World History
	• U.S. Expansion West	Geography
	Job opportunity	Performing Arts
	*Political opportunity	Science- Engineering
	 Railroad system and other transportation 	Science-Earth and Humanity
	inventions	Science Earth and Humanity
	*Success or failure of settlements based	
	on Manifest Destiny	
	*Success and failure due to geopolitical	
	factors	
	• Science	
	*Optimizing Engineering designs of systems-	
	Create better structures	
	Map systems	
	*Analysis of maps to construct viable	
	communities-success and failure of	
	systems/cities	
Civil Rights	Nonfiction texts to learn about important	History
	people and events during the civil rights, such	Social studies
	as Martin Luther king and Rosa Parks	Health
	 Fiction and non-fiction texts that explain 	Geography
	diversity and rights	Civics and government
	 informative texts (fiction or nonfiction) about 	
	people's experiences in a diverse	
	culture/environment	



	 Texts about NM before and after the civil rights movement 	
Revolutions and Revolutionaries	rights movement Trace the path that civilizations bring about the changes that will better the lives of future generations. The <i>political structure</i> changes 1. The Mexican Revolution of 1910 2. The Russian Revolution of 1917 3. The Cuban Revolution of 1959 The <i>societal structure</i> changes 1. Industrial Revolution of the late 1800's 2. Cultural Revolution of the 1960's, 3. New Information Age (midst of a revolution)	History Science Reading Math Engineering Arts
	Concepts of bringing change. Changes that are taking place in several countries around the world. (" <i>Change</i> ", " <i>Force</i> ", and " <i>Balance</i> ")	
	 Political Revolutionaries around the world Toussaint L'Ouverture (1743–1803) Emiliano Zapata (1879–1919) Ernesto 'Che' Guevara (1928–1967) Gandhi (1869–1948) Napoleon Bonaparte (1769–1821) George Washington (1732–1799) Vladimir Lenin (1870–1924) Nelson Mandela (1918–2013) Mao Zedong (1893–1976) Fidel Castro (1926–2016) Ho Chi Minh (1890–1969) Simon Bolivar (1783–1830) 	
	 Activists, politicians to feminists 1. Martin Luther King 2. John Locke 3. Karl Marx 4. Harvey Milk 5. Bertrand Russell 6. Gloria Steinem 7. Marie Stopes 8. Mary Wollstonecraft 9. Malala Yousafzai 	
The Human Body	 Body systems: respiratory, circulatory, muscular, skeletal, nervous, digestive etc. Health related issues Culturally relevant health issues that impact the human body 	Science Health