

2021 Instructional Material Summer Review Institute

**Review Team Appraisal of Title
6-8 English Language Arts**

This appraisal form is provided for use by educators responsible for the selection of instructional materials for implementation with districts and charter schools across New Mexico to meet the need of their student populations.

This appraisal form should be used in conjunction with the publisher provided Form D: Research Based Effectiveness Determination that supports this reviewed material which can be found on the Instructional Material Bureau website.

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/instructional-materials/the-adoption-cycle/>

Text Title	Mirrors & Windows: Connecting with Literature	Publisher	Carnegie Learning, Inc.
SE ISBN	9781533836656	TE ISBN	9781533836724
SW ISBN		Grade Level/Content	Grade 8 ELA

Core Instructional Material Designation (*Core Instructional Material is the comprehensive print or digital educational material, including basal material, which constitutes the necessary instructional components of a full academic course of study in those subjects for which the department has adopted content standards and benchmarks.*)

Recommended
(90% and above)



Recommended with Reservations (80-89%)



Not Recommended and Not Adopted
(below 80%)



Total Score - The final score for the materials is averaged between the team of reviewers.

Average Score

91%

Cultural and Linguistic Relevance Recognition - *Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding cultural relevance and the inclusion of a culturally responsive lens. Those materials receiving a score of 90% or above on the CLR portion of the review are recognized as culturally and linguistically relevant.*

CLR Recognized



Average Score

97%

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):

The materials support cultural perspectives. Students are introduced to Native American and Asian American traditions. They are also exposed to Jewish and Pakistani culture and beliefs, as well as many others.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):

The materials encourage and support the culturally responsive lens. Students are asked to share their stories or poems from their native languages or countries. Students from different cultures are asked to describe forms of popular fictional text to the class and describe the writer and why they appeal to the students.

Standards Review - Materials are reviewed for alignment with the state adopted content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.

Average Score

89%

Materials align with grade level ELA standards overall.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials align with 8th grade ELA standards. The materials comprehensively attend to all standards and can be found in the scope and sequence section of the materials. The materials have a teacher guide that guides the students to find what device an author is using and what the effect is with specific examples from the text.

Materials align to reading standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The curriculum does align to the reading standards. Students are given the opportunity to create a list of information given and explain how these details affect the understanding of the images. Students are not asked to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums within a text.

Materials align to writing standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials support the alignment of the writing standards. The materials include directions for clear and coherent writing to include the following; organization, clear details, and descriptive style. The curriculum offers steps in the writing process, along with writing strategies, and various writing opportunities. Establishing and maintaining formal style is not mentioned.

Materials align to speaking and listening standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials provide supports to the speaking and listening standards. The TE gives guidelines on discussions, however, in the SE there are many opportunities for students to engage in collegial discussions, but with no evidence to follow rules, track progress with goals or deadlines, or defining individual roles. Students have several opportunities to come to discussions prepared, having read or researched the material under study. Every unit ends with a speaking and listening activity. Students are also provided with debate and mock trials to practice these skills.

Materials align to language standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials support the alignment to the language standards. Students are required to find examples of ellipsis throughout the play they are reading. The materials give students practice using context clues to determine the meaning of unknown vocabulary words in a group of sentences before a short story.

ELA Content Review - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the specific content area reviewed.

Average Score

97%

Materials provide a selection and range of high-quality texts worthy of students' time and attention, exhibiting exceptional craft and thought and/or providing useful information.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials provide genres and text characteristics specific to 8th grade standards as follows; fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and folk literature. The curriculum is complete with content rich and well-crafted texts across all genres and subject matter to enrich student knowledge and reading skills.

Questions in the materials are high-quality text-dependent and text-specific questions. The overwhelming majority of these questions are text-specific and draw student attention to the particulars in the text.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

In several places throughout the text, students are asked text-dependent questions, requiring use of textual evidence to support their inference drawn from the text. Materials offer many opportunities for students to cite the strongest textual evidence to support the analysis of what was read. Students are asked to determine if what they are reading is direct or indirect characterization, and explain why.

Materials provide scaffolding and supports to enable students' learning of English language arts.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Each module in the TE provides clear, measurable, standard-aligned learning objectives and provides opportunities for differentiated instruction. The modules also provide reading skills and literary element supports to assist with differentiation.

All Content Review - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding the progression of the standards, lesson structure, pacing, assessment, individual learners and cultural relevance.

Average Score

97%

Materials are coherent and consistent with the standards that all students should study in order to be college and career ready.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The curriculum is grade level appropriate, consistent with 8th grade standards, preparing all students for college and career readiness. Materials engage students by providing information about the vocabulary and concepts they will see in every unit, as well as provide a close reading model for students to use when starting a new unit.

Materials are well designed and take into account effective lesson structure and pacing.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The TE provides a comprehensive overview of the assignments with a scope and sequence for each unit. Materials in the TE present scope and sequence for each unit providing learning progressions and an overview of texts, including reading skills/graphic organizers, literary elements, themes, cross-curricular connections, writing to source, etc.

Materials support teacher planning, learning, and understanding of the standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials support unit planning, learning, and understanding of the standards. Materials within the TE have annotations and provide suggestions on how to present the content in the student edition and in the ancillary material.

Materials offer teachers resources and tools to collect ongoing data about student progress on the standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

In the TE, materials provide measurable student assessments throughout the curriculum and the standards can be cross-referenced with the TE eBook tool.

Materials support effective use of technology to enhance student learning.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials offer students the ability to perform an internet search to find websites or an electronic library database to locate further information about topics within the curriculum. Students are expected to evaluate their sources to find the most reliable and least reliable and describe their evaluation process. Students are asked to do internet research over the battle of Shiloh, creating a list of the most reliable sources.

Materials can be easily customized for individual learners.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

There are several opportunities in the curriculum to provide supports for different student populations, for example, incorporating enrichment opportunities and reinforcing skills/strategies for special need students.

Materials give all students extensive opportunities and support to explore key concepts.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials provide and engage students in the content by incorporating reading, writing, listening and speaking skills and strategies at various levels of learning.

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials support cultural perspectives. Students are introduced to Native American and Asian American traditions. They are also exposed to Jewish and Pakistani culture and beliefs, as well as many others.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials encourage and support the culturally responsive lens. Students are asked to share their stories or poems from their native languages or countries. Students from different cultures are asked to describe forms of popular fictional text to the class and describe the writer and why they appeal to the students.

Reviewers' Professional Summation - These materials are reviewed by Level II and Level III educators from across New Mexico. The reviewers have brought their knowledge, experience and expertise into the review of these materials. They offer here their individual summary of the material as a whole.

Reviewer #: 61

Background and experience:

I have been teaching for 20 years in New Mexico and have taught Kindergarten, 5th grade, 6th - 8th grades. My experience includes teaching 6th grade science, 6th - 7th grade history, 6th and 8th grade ELA, a 5th grade reading interventionist and an all content teacher for Kindergarten, 5th, 6th, and 8th grade. I hold a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Literacy. My teacher license is a Level III Elementary Education with an endorsement in Reading. Currently I am a 6th grade teacher, Student Assistance Team Coordinator, and a member of the Leadership Team.

Professional summary of material:

Mirrors and Windows is a curriculum that supports grade level standards preparing students for college and career readiness. The materials are designed to effectively prepare lesson structure and pacing by offering a scope and sequence for each unit. The book and digital materials offer formative and summative assessments to provide data for the teacher and students. The units support culturally relevant unit activities and differentiated instruction for all learners. The lessons have a variety of opportunities for students to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

Reviewer #: 62

Background and experience:

I have been teaching for 10 years in New Mexico. I have taught 6th grade for 4 years and a combination class of 5th and 6th grade for 6 years. My experience includes teaching all subject areas for 5th and 6th grade and Math Intervention for 2 years. I hold a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Health and master's degree in Exercise and Sport Science with an emphasis in Teacher Education and am currently working towards a 2nd masters in Educational Leadership Administration. My teacher license is a Level III Elementary Education with an endorsement in Reading.

Professional summary of material:

Mirrors & Windows is a curriculum full of culturally rich content across all genres. The curriculum offers a vast amount of differentiated instruction in all readings. The pacing guide is clear and concise with technology support and independent reading options. The curriculum offers vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and skills practice, as well as, writing workshops and speaking and listening workshops within each unit. Mirrors & Windows provides a variety of culturally relevant activities and plenty of reading skills practice to help with comprehension before, during, and after for reading proficiency at grade level.

Reviewer #: 63

Background and experience:

I have been teaching a total of 16 years. I have taught majority of my career in New Mexico. I have taught all grade levels K-7. Next year will be my first year teaching 9th Grade ELA. My experience includes teaching combined elementary gifted classes, and 7th Grade ELA. I hold my bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and a master's in Early Childhood Education with an emphasis in Reading. My teaching license is a Level III K-9 with Reading Endorsement. I have just begun the process of becoming Nationally Board Certified.

Professional summary of material:

Mirrors and Windows is a curriculum that supports and aligns with grade-level standards. The curriculum offers high quality texts with a diverse selection of genres from an array of different cultures and backgrounds. The curriculum offers support in the planning and implementation of effective instruction. Instruction, reading selections, and activities are highly engaging. The materials promote critical thinking in both ELA standards and other disciplines. Each unit provides differentiated strategies to meet the needs of all learners. The curriculum offers many engaging opportunities for students to integrate technology into their learning. Overall, the materials provide a satisfactory reading, writing, listening and speaking program.