

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 6th Grade:

Possible Topics for Building Knowledge	Suggestions to Consider When Planning	Subject-Areas and Standards that Align with this Topic
Early Civilizations	Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - look at Ancient Roman roads and architecture that they built in their empire 	Social Studies Science Engineering
Weather and Climate	Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - read literature to include interactions with sunlight, oceans, atmosphere, ice, landforms, and living things 	Science: ESS2.D, ESS3.D Engineering: MS ESS2-6E; Math MP.2, 6NS.C.5, 6EE.B.6 Social Studies: Geography 5-8 Benchmark 2-A
Social Media and Mental Health	Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - examine different types of social media, the pros and cons of social media, and look at how it affects mental health 	Health: Content Standard 1 Benchmark 2; Performance Standard 2
Engineering	Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - examine different types of technology, how things are made and developed, the process, and advancements in technology 	Engineering: NGSS ETS, Standards 1-4 Social Studies
Equality and Social Change	Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - look at equality and how it has evolved through ancient civilizations (Egypt, Greece, etc.) and continues through present civilizations 	Social Studies: CCSS National Curriculum Social Studies Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 10
Healthcare	Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - read about healthcare professionals in nonfiction and fiction texts - look at healthcare through different perspectives (doctor, patient, family/community, insurance, insurance provider). - students look at their own health history 	Health: Content Standard 1, Benchmark 7 Social Studies: 5-8 Content Standard 1 Benchmark 1-D: Skills

