

21st Century Learning in SAU 15

Twenty-first-century learning enables our students to be academically competitive in the global community. Education must challenge students with rigorous, personalized academic experiences, foster innovation and creativity, and embrace emerging technologies. In a 21st century learning environment, students actively engage in a cohesively integrated curriculum, access information and apply it to authentic problems in our society.

SAU 15 has identified ten essential elements for learning in the 21st century:

- media literacy
- problem solving
- digital citizenship
- creative & innovative thinking
- collaboration
- global awareness
- reflection
- adapting to change
- communication
- core academic mastery

Students who master these skills have the ability to adapt to varied roles and responsibilities, work effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities hence preparing them for the complex challenges of our ever-changing world.

Science

Earth Science: Students explain the roles and impact of the sun, water and humans in various cycles on Earth including their impact on the environment.

Life Science: Students recognize that in any given environment, organisms interact and depend on abiotic and biotic factors.

Physical Science: Students identify forms of energy, their interrelatedness in a system and net forces applied to an object.



Social Studies

Civics: Students compare and contrast the difference between state and federal governments.

Economics: Students recognize the role of economics in international diplomacy & war as well as explain the importance of money management in a global economy.

Geography: Students explain how physical processes influence the formation and distribution of resources.

US/NH History: Students describe New Hampshire's role in national elections.

World History: Students examine how religion, literature, art and music often influence and reflect major ideas of a time period.

SAU 15

AUBURN, CANDIA & HOOKSETT, NH

GRADE 7 CURRICULUM



SAU 15 CURRICULUM

We have high expectations for our students and teachers. Our comprehensive curriculum is challenging and relevant to all students, providing a strong foundation for success in a global community. Included in this brochure is a sampling of the skills and understandings we focus on in each content area.



Mathematics

Our core instructional standards for Mathematics stress not only procedural skill but also conceptual understanding. To ensure they are learning the critical information, students will apply their understanding to a range of new problems and situations. In grade 7, instructional time will focus on four critical areas:

- (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships;
- (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations;
- (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume;
- (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

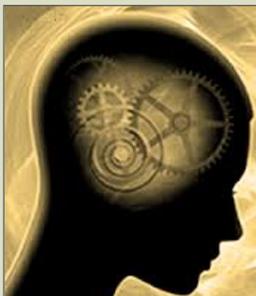


Standards for Mathematical Practice

The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe habits of mind that educators at all levels seek to develop in their students. These practices rest on “processes and proficiencies” with longstanding importance in mathematics education.

Mathematically proficient students:

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.



English Language Arts

English Language Arts is comprised of four areas: reading, writing, language, and speaking & listening.

Reading: A key requirement for reading is that all students must be able to comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity as they progress through school. In grade 7, students will:

- cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says as well as inferences drawn from the text;
- trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.

Writing: While all text types are important, particular emphasis is put on students’ ability to write sound arguments on substantive topics and issues, as this ability is critical to college and career readiness. In grade 7, students will:

- write arguments to support claims and acknowledge opposing claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence;
- conduct short research projects to answer a question, using multiple sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

Speaking and Listening: The English language arts classroom includes oral language in a purposeful, systematic way to help students master the printed word. In grade 7, students will:

- construct and engage in a variety of collaborative discussions; review key ideas expressed and confirm an understanding of multiple perspectives; acknowledge new information presented by others.

Language: Students must be able to communicate effectively in a wide range of print and digital texts, each of which may require different grammatical and usage choices to be effective. In grade 7, students will:

- choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, recognizing and eliminating wordiness and redundancy.