Washington State K–12 Learning Standards and Guidelines

Language Arts

Grade: **8** - Adopted: **2011**

EALR	WA.RL.8.	Reading Standards for Literature
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		Key Ideas and Details
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	RL.8.1.	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. **BookTaco** **Book Notes** Opportunity for students to submit their thoughts, feelings, insight and observations on a book. Once submitted, Book Notes is marked completed and game coins earned with the notes appearing in the teacher's Reports page ready for review and assessment. **Book Quiz** Multiple choice based comprehension questions allowing teachers to customize test settings including passing score, number of attempts, and day of the week. Quiz questions are shuffled and randomized to maintain testing integrity. **Book Review** Book Taco survey questions about how the student experienced the book and their overall rating of the characters, plot, and appeal. **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Chapter Notes** One page chapter notes organizer helps students organize characters and events for each chapter read. **Compare & Contrast Characters** Template and word bank for the analysis of two characters' similarities and differences. **Draw It!** Fun activity where students get to express their creativity by drawing their favorite parts of books and providing description. **Paragraph Writing Prompts** Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading. **Plot Diagram** Students organize the elements of a narrative text by identifying the exposition, rising action, the climax, the main events of the falling action and the resolution. **Point Of View!** Assess the level of a student's thinking about the reading and their ability to support conclusions with text-based evidence. **Retell The Story** Practice summarizing and retelling the story (writing or pictures) by challenging students to identify main ideas, themes, and key details. **Story Mapping** The describe the characters, setting, beginning, middle and end of the story.
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	RL.8.2.	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text. **BookTaco** **Book Review** Book Taco survey questions about how the student experienced the book and their overall rating of the characters, plot, and appeal. **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Chapter Notes** One page chapter notes organizer helps students organize characters and

events for each chapter read.
Compare & Contrast Characters
Template and word bank for the analysis of two characters' similarities and differences.
Draw It!
Fun activity where students get to express their creativity by drawing their favorite parts of books and providing description.
Paragraph Writing Prompts
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Plot Diagram
Students organize the elements of a narrative text by identifying the exposition, rising action, the climax, the main events of the falling action and the resolution.
Point Of View!
Assess the level of a student's thinking about the reading and their ability to support conclusions with text-based evidence.
Retell The Story
Practice summarizing and retelling the story (writing or pictures) by challenging students to identify main ideas, themes, and key details.
Story Mapping
The describe the characters, setting, beginning, middle and end of the story.

EALR	WA.RL.8.	Reading Standards for Literature
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		Craft and Structure
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	RL.8.4.	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. **BookTaco** **Chapter Notes** One page chapter notes organizer helps students organize characters and events for each chapter read. **Compare & Contrast Characters** Template and word bank for the analysis of two characters' similarities and differences. **Definition Matching** Definition matching exercise leveraging high level engagement with pronunciation reinforcement. **Draw It!** Fun activity where students get to express their creativity by drawing their favorite parts of books and providing description. **Plot Diagram** Students organize the elements of a narrative text by identifying the exposition, rising action, the climax, the main events of the falling action and the resolution. **Point Of View!** Assess the level of a student's thinking about the reading and their ability to support conclusions with text-based evidence. **Retell The Story** Practice summarizing and retelling the story (writing or pictures) by challenging students to identify main ideas, themes, and key details. **Sentence Completion** Matching exercise challenges the understanding of the appropriate contextual usage of the words. **Story Mapping** The describe the characters, setting, beginning, middle and end of the story. **Word Introduction** Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage. **Word Jumble** Active and fun learning medium promoting language acquisition through contextual and visual experience.
EALR	WA.RL.8.	Reading Standards for Literature
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	RL.8.10.	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. **BookTaco** **Book Notes** Opportunity for students to submit their thoughts, feelings, insight and observations on a book. Once submitted, Book Notes is marked completed and game coins earned with the notes appearing in the teacher's Reports page

		ready for review and assessment.
		Book Quiz
		Multiple choice based comprehension questions allowing teachers to customize test settings including passing score, number of attempts, and day of the week. Quiz questions are shuffled and randomized to maintain testing integrity.
		Book Review
		Book Taco survey questions about how the student experienced the book and their overall rating of the characters, plot, and appeal.
		Book Talk
		Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice.
		Chapter Notes
		One page chapter notes organizer helps students organize characters and events for each chapter read.
		Compare & Contrast Characters
		Template and word bank for the analysis of two characters' similarities and differences.
		Draw It!
		Fun activity where students get to express their creativity by drawing their favorite parts of books and providing description.
		Paragraph Writing Prompts
		Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading.
		Plot Diagram
		Students organize the elements of a narrative text by identifying the exposition, rising action, the climax, the main events of the falling action and the resolution.
		Point Of View!
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		Retell The Story
		Practice summarizing and retelling the story (writing or pictures) by challenging students to identify main ideas, themes, and key details.
		Story Mapping
		The describe the characters, setting, beginning, middle and end of the story.
EALR	**WA.RI.8.**	**Reading Standards for Informational Text**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Key Ideas and Details**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**RI.8.1.**	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. **BookTaco** **Book Notes** Opportunity for students to submit their thoughts, feelings, insight and observations on a book. Once submitted, Book Notes is marked completed and game coins earned with the notes appearing in the teacher's Reports page ready for review and assessment. **Book Quiz** Multiple choice based comprehension questions allowing teachers to customize test settings including passing score, number of attempts, and day of the week. Quiz questions are shuffled and randomized to maintain testing integrity. **Book Review** Book Taco survey questions about how the student experienced the book and their overall rating of the characters, plot, and appeal. **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction 3-2-1 Fun** Nonfiction graphic organizer helps students organize their understanding of a book or text. **Nonfiction Book Report** Great activity to get your students reading for information allowing for assessment of understanding and comprehension. **Paragraph Writing Prompts** Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading.
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**RI.8.2.**	Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text. **BookTaco** **Book Talk**

		Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction 3-2-1 Fun** Nonfiction graphic organizer helps students organize their understanding of a book or text. **Nonfiction Book Report** Great activity to get your students reading for information allowing for assessment of understanding and comprehension. **Paragraph Writing Prompts** Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading.
EALR	**WA.RI.8.**	**Reading Standards for Informational Text**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Craft and Structure**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**RI.8.4.**	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. **BookTaco** **Nonfiction Book Report** Great activity to get your students reading for information allowing for assessment of understanding and comprehension. **Sample Unscramble Sentence** These scrambled sentences are a great way to teach and reinforce vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar.
EALR	**WA.RI.8.**	**Reading Standards for Informational Text**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**RI.8.7.**	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice.
EALR	**WA.RI.8.**	**Reading Standards for Informational Text**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**RI.8.10.**	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. **BookTaco** **Book Notes** Opportunity for students to submit their thoughts, feelings, insight and observations on a book. Once submitted, Book Notes is marked completed and game coins earned with the notes appearing in the teacher's Reports page ready for review and assessment. **Book Quiz** Multiple choice based comprehension questions allowing teachers to customize test settings including passing score, number of attempts, and day of the week. Quiz questions are shuffled and randomized to maintain testing integrity. **Book Review** Book Taco survey questions about how the student experienced the book and their overall rating of the characters, plot, and appeal. **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction 3-2-1 Fun** Nonfiction graphic organizer helps students organize their understanding of a book or text. **Nonfiction Book Report** Great activity to get your students reading for information allowing for assessment of understanding and comprehension. **Nonfiction Text Features** Encourage your students to review nonfiction books for text features and discuss the impact and significance of each. **Paragraph Writing Prompts** Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading.

		Reading Log
		Students can manually enter and track their daily reading statistics (name of book, time spent reading and number of pages) or record their reading in real time with our online reading stopwatch.
EALR	**WA.W.8.**	**Writing Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Research to Build and Present Knowledge**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**W.8.7.**	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration. **BookTaco** **Book Notes** Opportunity for students to submit their thoughts, feelings, insight and observations on a book. Once submitted, Book Notes is marked completed and game coins earned with the notes appearing in the teacher's Reports page ready for review and assessment.
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**W.8.8.**	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. **BookTaco** **Book Notes** Opportunity for students to submit their thoughts, feelings, insight and observations on a book. Once submitted, Book Notes is marked completed and game coins earned with the notes appearing in the teacher's Reports page ready for review and assessment. **Nonfiction Book Report** Great activity to get your students reading for information allowing for assessment of understanding and comprehension. **Paragraph Writing Prompts** Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading.
EALR	**WA.W.8.**	**Writing Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Range of Writing**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**W.8.10.**	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. **BookTaco** **Paragraph Writing Prompts** Students can view and select from a variety of different writing prompts. Once their paragraph(s) is ready it can be submitted for review/grading.
EALR	**WA.SL.8.**	**Speaking and Listening Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Comprehension and Collaboration**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**SL.8.1.**	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**SL.8.1(a)**	Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction Text Features** Encourage your students to review nonfiction books for text features and discuss the impact and significance of each.
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**SL.8.1(b)**	Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction Text Features**

		Encourage your students to review nonfiction books for text features and discuss the impact and significance of each.
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	SL.8.1(c)	Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction Text Features** Encourage your students to review nonfiction books for text features and discuss the impact and significance of each.
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	SL.8.1(d)	Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Nonfiction Text Features** Encourage your students to review nonfiction books for text features and discuss the impact and significance of each.
EALR	**WA.SL.8.**	**Speaking and Listening Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	SL.8.4.	Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. **Definition Matching** Definition matching exercise leveraging high level engagement with pronunciation reinforcement. **Hear It Say It Write It** Word pronunciation with student modeling along with word writing in print or cursive. **Sample Unscramble Sentence** These scrambled sentences are a great way to teach and reinforce vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar. **Word Introduction** Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage. **Word Jumble** Active and fun learning medium promoting language acquisition through contextual and visual experience. **Word Ladder** Interactive exercise deepening knowledge of new words, boosting working memory and increasing student exposure.
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	SL.8.5.	Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice.
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	SL.8.6.	Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. **BookTaco** **Book Talk** Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice.
EALR	**WA.L.8.**	**Language Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Conventions of Standard English**

CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**L.8.2.**	**Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.**
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**L.8.2(c)**	**Spell correctly.** **BookTaco** **Hear It Say It Write It** **Word pronunciation with student modeling along with word writing in print or cursive.** **Word Introduction** **Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage.** **Word Jumble** **Active and fun learning medium promoting language acquisition through contextual and visual experience.** **Word Ladder** **Interactive exercise deepening knowledge of new words, boosting working memory and increasing student exposure.**
EALR	**WA.L.8.**	**Language Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Vocabulary Acquisition and Use**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**L.8.4.**	**Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.**
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**L.8.4(a)**	**Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.** **BookTaco** **Sample Unscramble Sentence** **These scrambled sentences are a great way to teach and reinforce vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar.** **Sentence Completion** **Matching exercise challenges the understanding of the appropriate contextual usage of the words.** **Word Introduction** **Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage.** **Word Jumble** **Active and fun learning medium promoting language acquisition through contextual and visual experience.**
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**L.8.4(c)**	**Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.** **BookTaco** **Nonfiction Text Features** **Encourage your students to review nonfiction books for text features and discuss the impact and significance of each.**
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**L.8.4(d)**	**Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).** **BookTaco** **Sample Unscramble Sentence** **These scrambled sentences are a great way to teach and reinforce vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar.** **Sentence Completion** **Matching exercise challenges the understanding of the appropriate contextual usage of the words.** **Word Introduction** **Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage.** **Word Jumble** **Active and fun learning medium promoting language acquisition through contextual and visual experience.**
EALR	**WA.L.8.**	**Language Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Vocabulary Acquisition and Use**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**L.8.5.**	**Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.**
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**L.8.5(b)**	**Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.** **BookTaco** **Word Introduction**

		Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage.
CONTENT STANDARD / PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	**L.8.5(c)**	Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute). BookTaco Definition Matching Definition matching exercise leveraging high level engagement with pronunciation reinforcement.
EALR	**WA.L.8.**	**Language Standards**
BIG IDEA / CORE CONTENT		**Vocabulary Acquisition and Use**
CORE CONTENT / CONTENT STANDARD	**L.8.6.**	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. BookTaco Book Talk Student generated video response where students record and capture their true feelings about the books they read. The perfect tool to promote public speaking skills, collaboration, advocacy and student voice. Chapter Notes One page chapter notes organizer helps students organize characters and events for each chapter read. Compare & Contrast Characters Template and word bank for the analysis of two characters' similarities and differences. Definition Matching Definition matching exercise leveraging high level engagement with pronunciation reinforcement. Draw It! Fun activity where students get to express their creativity by drawing their favorite parts of books and providing description. Hear It Say It Write It Word pronunciation with student modeling along with word writing in print or cursive. Nonfiction Book Report Great activity to get your students reading for information allowing for assessment of understanding and comprehension. Plot Diagram Students organize the elements of a narrative text by identifying the exposition, rising action, the climax, the main events of the falling action and the resolution. Point Of View! Assess the level of a student's thinking about the reading and their ability to support conclusions with text-based evidence. Retell The Story Practice summarizing and retelling the story (writing or pictures) by challenging students to identify main ideas, themes, and key details. Sample Unscramble Sentence These scrambled sentences are a great way to teach and reinforce vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar. Sentence Completion Matching exercise challenges the understanding of the appropriate contextual usage of the words. Story Mapping The describe the characters, setting, beginning, middle and end of the story. Vocabulary Test Final assessment module featuring multiple choice environment. Word Introduction Introduction to definitions, synonyms, antonyms and contextual usage. Word Jumble Active and fun learning medium promoting language acquisition through contextual and visual experience. Word Ladder Interactive exercise deepening knowledge of new words, boosting working memory and increasing student exposure.