

GRADE 8 AT-A-GLANCE

HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

Relationship Choices

- analyze skills needed to maintain individuality within a group.

Life Learning Choices

- investigate programs related to potential careers.

Wellness Choices

- adopt goals that reflect healthy eating.

Comprehend various kinds of texts

- use a thesaurus to extend vocabulary
- explore choices made in planning various texts
- create texts related to current life issues
- identify creative uses of language and visuals in popular culture.

Manage ideas and information

- revise to enhance sentence variety
- make notes in point form, summarizing major ideas
- experiment with several ways to focus a topic.

Communicate clearly

- vary handwriting style and pace
- use verb tenses consistently
- present information to achieve a particular purpose
- experiment with voice, figurative language, sentence patterns.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Respect and support others

- examine the ideas of others to broaden perspective
- use inclusive language and actions that demonstrate respect
- organize and complete tasks cooperatively.

Explore thoughts and ideas

- seek out and consider diverse ideas, opinions and experiences
- pursue personal interest in specific genres
- identify and use visual and textual cues in reference materials.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Benefits Health

- acknowledge the perceptions resulting from media influence on body types
- perform appropriate physical activities for personal stress management

Activity

- develop and apply skills through experiences in the dimensions of:
 - Alternative Environments, Dance, Individual Activities, Types of Gymnastics

Cooperation

- communicate thoughts and feelings in an appropriate respectful manner
- apply and practise leadership and followership skills related to physical activity

Do It Daily ... for Life!

- develop a personal plan that encourages participation
- design and perform warm-up and cool-down activities

SCIENCE

Mix and Flow of Matter

Cells and Systems

Light and Optical Systems

Mechanical Systems

Freshwater and Saltwater Systems

SUPPORTS FOR LEARNING

Distributed Learning

Special Education Needs

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Knowledge and Employability Courses

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Number

- demonstrate an understanding of multiplication and division of fractions and mixed numbers
- demonstrate an understanding of perfect squares and square roots
- demonstrate an understanding of ratio and rate.

Shape and Space

- develop and apply the Pythagorean theorem to solve problems
- develop and apply formulas for determining volumes
- draw and construct nets for 3-D objects.

MATHEMATICS

Statistics and Probability

- critique ways in which data is presented in circle, line, bar and pictographs
- solve problems involving the probability of independent events.

Patterns and Relations

- graph and analyze two-variable linear relations
- model and solve problems using linear equations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Isolation and Adaptation: Japan

Exploring the Origins of a Western Worldview: Renaissance Europe

Contact Among Cultures in the Americas: The Spanish and the Aztecs

OPTIONAL COURSES

Ethics

Languages

Career and Technology Studies

Environmental and Outdoor Education

Locally Developed Courses

Fine and Performing Arts: Art, Drama and Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- "Stand By Me"—focuses students' attention on the person of Jesus Christ, revealed as the fullness and perfect image of God.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT). Students learn and apply ICT knowledge and skills while learning in content areas such as language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Information for Parents

Parents can access information about the curriculum and learning resources in a number of ways:

- your child's teacher or school
- Curriculum Summaries
- Curriculum Handbooks
- Programs of Study on the Alberta Education website.

How Can I Help My Child At Home?

Show interest in school activities by:

- asking questions
- helping with homework and projects
- setting aside time and a place for your child to complete homework.

Use Alberta Education and other resources produced for parents, such as

- **The Parent Advantage**—*Tips and strategies for helping with homework in grades 1 through 9.*
- **Make School Work for You: A Resource for Junior and Senior High Students Who Want to Be More Successful Learners**—*Information on knowing yourself, getting organized, making every class count, test taking, presenting learning, getting along with others and staying motivated.*
- **LearnAlberta.ca Website**—*Online multimedia learning resources that directly relate to the Alberta programs of study.* <http://learnalberta.ca>
- **TELUS 2Learn Website**—*An education-business partnership that provides Internet inservice, support and mentorship for Alberta teachers.* <http://www.2learn.ca>

Schooling in Alberta

Curriculum describes what students are expected to learn. Alberta Education develops the curriculum in consultation with teachers, administrators, parents, representatives from post-secondary institutions, and professional and community groups.

Teachers use the curriculum to plan learning activities that meet their students' needs and abilities. They regularly assess student progress, reporting to parents, students and administrators.

Students write provincial achievement tests in grades 3, 6 and 9.

Religious Education

Religious Education is an essential and integral part of the life and culture of Catholic schools. Schools support the home and family in the faith development of children. For more information, contact the local school board.

Languages

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| ➤ Blackfoot | ➤ Italian |
| ➤ Chinese (Mandarin) | ➤ Japanese |
| ➤ Cree | ➤ Punjabi |
| ➤ French | ➤ Spanish |
| ➤ German | ➤ Ukrainian |

These languages as well as others may be available at your child's school. For more information, contact the local school board.

Where Can I Get More Information?

- The Alberta Education Website
<http://education.alberta.ca/>
- Arts, Communications and Citizenship
Telephone: 780-427-2984
Fax: 780-422-0576
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Digital Design and Resource Authorization
Telephone: 780-422-3244
Fax: 780-422-9157
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Distributed Learning
Telephone: 780-674-5350
Fax: 780-674-6561
E-mail: DLB.General@gov.ab.ca
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Services
Telephone: 780-415-9300
Fax: 780-415-9306
E-mail: FNMIServices@gov.ab.ca
- French Language Education Services
Telephone: 780-427-2940
Fax: 780-422-1947
E-mail: LSB@edc.gov.ab.ca
- Inclusive Learning Supports
Telephone: 780-422-6326
Fax: 780-422-2039
E-mail: inclusivelearningsupports@gov.ab.ca
- Learner Assessment
Telephone: 780-427-0010
Fax: 780-422-4200
E-mail: LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca
- Mathematics and Sciences
Telephone: 780-427-2984
Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca

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Grade 8

Curriculum
Summary

