

French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Curriculum

French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Introduction

What Is French Immersion Language Arts and Literature?

French is the language of communication in many countries and one of two official languages in Canada. It was the first European language spoken in the territory that has become Alberta. French Immersion Language Arts and Literature aims to help students develop literacy and communication skills in French. It is designed for students who wish to develop their communication skills in an additional language as part of the French immersion program. The learning in this subject is interdisciplinary in that it supports learning in other subjects; language is both an object of and a tool for learning. It is through participation in authentic communication that students develop both oral and written comprehension and expression skills. These opportunities allow students to deepen their understanding of themselves and the world, to appreciate the richness and beauty of the French language, and to value the contributions of an additional language to their personal growth.

As language and culture are interconnected, students who explore and produce oral, print, visual, or multimedia texts, in digital or non-digital forms, open themselves to the world. This learning raises students' awareness of the pluricultural realities of the Francophonie and the world at large, fostering open-mindedness and inclusiveness. As students examine various viewpoints, they make connections, enrich their perspectives, and increase their appreciation of diverse communities. French Immersion Language Arts and Literature supports students in achieving their full potential by connecting them with a greater diversity of Canadians and global citizens.

Language, Literacy, and Literature

French Immersion Language Arts and Literature is based on interrelated organizing ideas that provide essential content for communicating, learning, reflecting, and connecting with others. The development of oral communication is vital to the acquisition of French as an additional language, and it involves risk taking and active participation through interacting, listening to understand, viewing, and speaking. These meaningful experiences support the development of literacy, fluency, and confidence.

Knowledge and skills related to grammar, phonological awareness, phonics, and vocabulary are integral to understanding how language works. These enable strong connections between oral and written language, foster the development of reading fluency, and are the building blocks for comprehension and expression.

Understanding how different text types and genres are organized helps students understand and create their own oral and written texts. The development of the ability to assess information brings forth reflection, critical thinking, and responsible and respectful communication. By engaging with various texts containing cultural referents from the Francophonie and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, students develop an awareness of the perspectives and contributions of these people.

In French Immersion Language Arts and Literature, students use their imagination and creativity in a variety of ways to communicate their ideas. Students experiment with text production processes and apply language conventions to develop their own voice and communicate their ideas clearly, skillfully, and creatively for a variety of purposes and contexts.

French Immersion Language Arts and Literature provides students with opportunities to value and make connections with skills they may have in other languages. This learning helps them develop a positive plurilingual identity, contributing to the diversity of Canadian society.