

2011-2012

# KINDERGARTEN AT A GLANCE



Kindergarten is a wonderful way for your child to discover what school is like and to have fun while learning new things. In this exciting new community, children's natural curiosity and eagerness to learn are structured through organized activities and purposeful play. Your child will interact, imagine, experiment and explore to add to their knowledge, learn new skills and practise what they've learned.



EARLY LITERACY

2+2

EARLY NUMERACY



CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTITY



ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS

*A is for apple.* Your child will begin to understand that letters have sounds and that together those sounds form words and carry meaning. They will have fun sharing their ideas and experiences, forming letters, printing their names and playing with the new words they learn.

*Patterns are everywhere!* Your child will use objects and pictures to describe quantities of things up to 10. They'll explore creative ways to solve problems involving numbers, patterns and 3-D objects, and they'll connect numbers to their everyday life.

*I am unique and I belong!* Your child will develop a strong sense of identity, self-esteem and belonging by exploring their environment and sharing stories. They will see themselves as unique and discover the connections they have with others.

*What do I see, smell and hear in my community? How do I shape the environment?* Kindergarten children explore materials, build structures and use technology to explore, investigate and describe their world. They see similarities and differences and become aware of how one action can cause something else.



PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



PHYSICAL SKILLS AND WELL-BEING



CREATIVE EXPRESSION

*I know how to act and how to work and play with others.* Kindergarten children develop ways to express their feelings positively and to show respect and care for others. Trying new things and taking risks give them confidence in their ability to learn so they take responsibility for completing activities.

*A healthy body is part of a healthy life.* Your child will begin to develop a love for physical activity through movement, games and activities. They will use a variety of equipment and see that they have the power to make healthy food choices and play safely.

*Beauty is in the eye of the beholder!* Drama, art, music and dance give your child ways to express their ideas and feelings, to bring their imagination to life and to see their creativity in a variety of forms. Your child will respond to objects and art, explore music and dance, and develop confidence through drama.

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Government of Alberta



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My Child's Learning: A Parent  
Resource

<http://www.mychildslearning.alberta.ca>



ASSESSMENT

Throughout the Kindergarten year, your child's teacher will observe and record your child's learning and progress in relation to the expectations for the seven learning areas included in the *Kindergarten Program Statement*. The teacher will keep notes and use checklists to record observations. They will look not only at your child's work but also at the skills and strategies that your child uses. By observing your child many times in different situations, the teacher is better able to build a more complete assessment of your child's learning.

Information that the teacher gathers about each child is used in several ways. This information helps the teacher plan the learning environment and match learning activities to learning needs. The teacher is able to provide ongoing feedback to children to help them recognize what they know and are able to do, and to focus their efforts on more challenging activities.

Through oral or written reports, parent evenings, classroom visits and conferences, you and your child's teacher will exchange ideas and information, and you will learn more about your child's progress and achievements. In some Kindergarten programs, children participate in conferences with parents and the teacher. This experience allows children to reflect on and celebrate their learning and set future goals.

You play an integral role in your child's education by providing the encouragement and support he or she needs to succeed.

RESOURCES

Many Kindergarten programs have resources available for parents on a variety of topics, such as child development, discipline, parenting, health issues and community programs. The Kindergarten teacher and/or school principal may also suggest other places to look for information, such as libraries, local agencies or government offices.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

CITIZENSHIP AND CAREER PATHWAYS

Telephone: 780-427-2984

Fax: 780-422-0576

E-mail: [curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca](mailto:curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca)

FRENCH LANGUAGE EDUCATION SERVICES

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2011-2012

# GRADE 1 AT A GLANCE

**we educate**



Look at me—I'm in Grade 1! Grade 1 is the start of an exciting journey. All Grade 1 students in Alberta take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



ART

*How do I create things? In Grade 1, your child will create visual art by using a variety of media and techniques and will begin to think about what visual symbols mean. Through the four major components of the art program, they will explore form and function and develop decorative styles.*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

*What are words and how can I use them? How can I speak well with others and know I am using the right words? Grade 1 students see why words are important and how words can be used to create beautiful stories. Your Grade 1 child will experience the fun of communicating, learning and expressing themselves.*

*I won't forget to wash my hands! Grade 1 students see the importance of establishing healthy habits, eating well and following safety rules at home and in school. They understand that they can be a good friend by taking turns, being kind and sharing. They also learn how to set goals to work toward.*

2+2 MATHEMATICS



MUSIC

*I can count and work with patterns, shapes and objects! Your child will explore their surroundings to find geometric shapes and will learn to count to 100 in different ways. They will use objects, pictures and numbers to describe quantities to 20 and will create their own ways to add and subtract facts to 18. Your child will connect numbers to their everyday life and will explore ways to solve problems involving numbers, patterns and measurement.*

*Let the music move you! Your Grade 1 child will explore and describe the sounds around them, noting whether they're high or low. They will echo rhythms and express their feelings by using action songs, singing games and rhythm instruments.*



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle? Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.*

*Do you know why fall is my favourite season of the year? Grade 1 Science will foster your child's natural sense of wonder about their world while they learn about the seasons, colours and living things. By using their hands, their senses and their mind, your child will make exciting discoveries and satisfy their curiosity.*

*What makes a community? How do I fit in? What are some stories of the past? Your child will grow to understand the benefits and responsibilities of living in a community, while appreciating the differences in others. They'll also explore the history of your family and community.*

DRAMA  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

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## ASSESSMENT

Your child's learning is assessed using a variety of tools and strategies within the classroom. Ask your child's teacher what methods they are using. The different assessment methods tell you and your child's teacher about your child's strengths, the areas in which they might grow and how well your child is doing throughout their courses. Your child's teacher can then change or refine their teaching plans to ensure that learning activities better meet the needs of your child. At the end of each course, your child is assessed and their achievement is reported so that you know if they have achieved the expected learning outcomes for their grade.

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## RESOURCES

A variety of digital and print resources from many different sources help students learn. Alberta Education reviews and authorizes many student and teacher resources that support learning and teaching in the classroom. Additionally, teachers may select, and bring into the classroom, numerous other innovative and creative resources to create rich learning experiences for your child. Visit [LearnAlberta.ca](http://www.learnalberta.ca) (<http://www.learnalberta.ca/>), the Authorized Resources Database (<http://education.alberta.ca/apps/frdb/>) or the Learning Resources Centre (<http://www.lrc.education.gov.ab.ca/pro/default.html>) to learn more about the resources your child may encounter.

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2011-2012

# GRADE 2 AT A GLANCE

 educate



*New ideas are everywhere.* Grade 2 students take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



ART

*Look what I made!* In Grade 2, your child will create visual art by using a variety of media and techniques and communicating with visual symbols. Through the four major components of the art program—reflection, depiction, composition and expression—they will explore form and function and develop decorative styles.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

*What can I share with my classmates? What interesting things can my classmates share with me?* By further developing their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, your child will create, write and type their own stories and use their language skills to help others.



HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

*Volunteering at school makes me feel important!* Grade 2 students learn how to eat from all four food groups, learn how to be as active as they can, learn about safety on their bikes and inline skates, and discover who to trust in the neighbourhood.

2+2

MATHEMATICS

*I can use mathematics to solve problems.* Your child will learn that mathematics can be expressed through graphs and charts. They will count to 100 in a variety of ways and use objects, pictures and numbers to describe quantities to 100. Using mental mathematics, your child will add and subtract numbers to 100 and create strategies for adding and subtracting facts to 18. They will connect numbers to their everyday life and explore ways to solve problems using numbers, patterns, measurement and data collection.



MUSIC

*Making music!* Your Grade 2 child will create their own music for poems and songs. They will see how melodies rise and fall and understand that a rhythm can be paired with a melody. They will sing a variety of songs; move to music, poetry and stories; and read simple printed symbols.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.



SCIENCE

*Float or sink?* Grade 2 students continue to develop their science abilities by seeking answers to questions and solving problems. They explore the unique properties of liquids, especially water, and they learn how materials can change as they are heated or cooled. Students experiment with forces like buoyancy and magnetism and also learn about creepy crawlies!



SOCIAL STUDIES

*What other Canadian communities are there?* Your Grade 2 child will apply their understanding of community to an Inuit, an Acadian and a prairie community. They will come to appreciate how these communities are shaped by a variety of factors, such as the past, where they are located, the groups to which they belong and the exchange of goods and services.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

DRAMA  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

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# GRADE 3

## AT A GLANCE

 educate



The Grade 3 classroom is a busy, exciting place. Grade 3 students take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



ART



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

2+2

MATHEMATICS



MUSIC

*I can make it look even better!*  
Your Grade 3 child will focus on improving the things they make and on making their art look more realistic. They will look closely at the qualities of objects to make their work as good as possible. Your child will also use art to express feelings and ideas.

A spotted cow walked through the deep grass. Grade 3 students use their language skills to describe things in greater detail. They make their own stories more interesting and notice how they can add excitement by saying certain words louder or at a higher pitch. Words become more colourful than ever!

*I know what to do if someone tries to give me a cigarette. Thanks, but NO WAY!* Your child will become more confident about saying no to bullies and taking a stand in making safe and healthy choices. They will know what to do in an emergency and how to express feelings, even anger, in an appropriate way.

*I'm learning how to multiply and divide!* Your child will explore numbers to 1000, using place value and counting in different ways. They'll use their own strategies to add and subtract 2-digit numbers, and they'll learn how to multiply and divide. Your child will solve problems involving number, patterns, measurement and data collection.

*Feel the beat!* In Grade 3, students listen to different kinds of musical instruments and recognize that sounds are made in different ways. Through movement, dance and singing, your child will explore various kinds of music and discover different beats and dynamics of music.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



SCIENCE



SOCIAL STUDIES

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.

*Can you hear me?* Grade 3 science students learn about sound and about rocks found on Earth's surface. They test and evaluate building materials and apply problem-solving strategies to build structures for a specific classroom challenge. These young scientists also study the life cycles and needs of animals.

*What is life like in other countries? How are people in those countries like me?* Your child will examine communities in India, Tunisia, Peru and Ukraine. They will explore how people live in these communities, gaining an understanding of the global community and Canada's role within it.

DRAMA  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

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Government of Alberta

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#### ASSESSMENT

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In Grade 3, your child will write provincial achievement tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics. These tests provide information about your child's achievement compared with the achievement of children in the same grade from across the province. Teachers will often use provincial achievement test results to reflect on how the courses have been taught and how to better assist children's learning, and they'll use this information to report on your child's level of achievement. For more information about provincial assessment for Grade 3, contact Learner Assessment by telephone at 780-427-0010 (toll-free within Alberta by first dialling 310-0000) or by e-mail at [LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca).

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#### RESOURCES

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2011-2012

# GRADE 4 AT A GLANCE

 **educate**



*Gears, multiplication, personal health and the people of Alberta—exciting topics for exploration!* Grade 4 students take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



ART



ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE ARTS



HEALTH AND  
LIFE SKILLS

2+2

MATHEMATICS



MUSIC

*Doesn't it look real?* In Grade 4 Art, your child will develop more realistic treatments and refine forms. They will think about the visual qualities of objects, distinguish natural objects and improve their work as much as possible. Your child will also use art to express their feelings and ideas.

*My friends think differently than I do!* Students explore, discuss and interpret other opinions. They listen for main events in stories and notice how certain things cause other things to happen. Your child will express their ideas logically and in ways that entertain! They'll learn that brainstorming in a group can be more fun than working alone.

*I feel great when I help others!* Grade 4 students learn more about being there for others, showing respect and being good role models. They learn that they can deal with bullies and set good goals for themselves.

*I know how to tell time!* Your child will explore the mathematics of symmetry and will use pictures and numbers to describe quantities to 10 000. They'll use their own strategies to add and subtract numbers, they'll apply mental mathematics to multiply  $9 \times 9$  and do related division, and they'll use personal strategies to multiply and divide by 1 digit numbers. Your child will connect numbers and shapes to their everyday life and will explore ways to solve problems involving numbers, patterns, measurement and data collection.

*Musical harmony!* Grade 4 students experiment with tuned instruments and combine sounds to make harmony. Your child will identify chords, group beats into fours and group instruments into families. They'll sing quickly and slowly, happily and sadly, understanding that music changes.



PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION



SCIENCE



SOCIAL STUDIES

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.

*Can that be recycled?* Grade 4 students learn about how much waste we produce and identify ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. Students examine and build devices with moving parts and learn about plant parts and their function. By using mirrors and prisms, students investigate light and its pathways.

*What is Alberta like and how did Alberta become what it is now?* By examining the many aspects of Alberta—such as geography, history and culture—your child will develop a stronger sense of people's identity as Albertans and a better understanding of our province's diversity.

DRAMA  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (FSL)  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

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#### ASSESSMENT

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Fax: 780-422-0576

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2011-2012

# GRADE 5 AT A GLANCE

 educate



*What can I learn from others who see things differently?* In Grade 5, students take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



ART



ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE ARTS



HEALTH AND  
LIFE SKILLS

2+2

MATHEMATICS



MUSIC

*What is "good" design?* In Grade 5 Art, your child will examine the individual character of objects and forms and begin to judge whether designed objects meet certain standards. They will play with shapes, changing them using abstraction and distortion, and work on using a minimum of material and effort in their art.

*I can set my own goals of how my language skills will improve!* I can choose pictures, print and offer ways to share my experiences. Your Grade 5 child will use many methods, such as computer programs, to create, organize and publish information. They will take responsibility for their role in a group and show appreciation for what others share.

*I'm getting better at listening to others!* Grade 5 students understand that it is important to appreciate others around them. They also discover ways to deal with their stress, manage their time and stay physically healthy.

*How likely is it that something will happen?* Your child will investigate the likelihood of events occurring through the study of probability. They'll use mental mathematics, estimations and personal strategies to solve problems involving whole numbers and decimals. They'll also describe shapes and objects, considering measurement and movement. Building on their earlier studies, your child will explore ways to solve problems involving numbers, patterns, measurement and data analysis, and they'll connect numbers and shapes to their everyday life.

*Sing, sing a song, make it simple, to last your whole life long!* Grade 5 students understand that rhythm, melody and chords are related. Your child will create rhythms and match the names, sounds and pictures of instruments. When they sing, they'll work on singing with a good tone and with expression.



PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION



SCIENCE



SOCIAL STUDIES

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.

*Charged up about electricity?* In Grade 5 Science, students learn about electricity and magnetism to build simple electrical devices. Chemistry activities like making crystals introduce them to chemical reactions. Students also interpret and measure weather and study wetland ecosystems.

*What is Canada like? I want to know our stories!* Canada is a vast country with a varied geography and a diverse population. Your Grade 5 child will discover Canada's regions, the stories and ways of life of Canada's peoples, and how various events have contributed to Canadians' identity.

DRAMA  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

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# GRADE 6 AT A GLANCE

 we educate



*I take responsibility for myself.* Grade 6 prepares students for the independence and challenge of junior high school. Students take eight required subjects: Art, English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Some schools may offer additional optional subjects.



ART

*How can I play with form to improve my art?* Your Grade 6 child will play with form and explore more complex art procedures. They will examine the individual character of objects and forms and judge whether designs are "good" or not. Using various media, they'll express themselves and refine their work.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

*How can I understand the people around me? How will they understand me?* Grade 6 students move from understanding and communicating to drawing conclusions about things and trying to convince others. They learn to think for themselves, revise their ideas and dig to find answers to questions that challenge them.



HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

*Doing things that are not safe affect me and might hurt other people too!* Grade 6 students understand that their choices, whether good or bad, can touch a lot of people. They see how learning to make decisions with a whole group is an important life skill.

2+2 MATHEMATICS



MUSIC

*There are many ways to communicate the patterns around us.* In Grade 6 Mathematics, your child will draw and classify angles and triangles and develop strategies to find area. They will understand and use place value, factors (e.g., 6 is a factor of 24) and multiples (e.g., 45 is a multiple of 9). Your child will also use variables, graphs and tables to show number patterns. Mental mathematics and estimation strategies will be key to connecting numbers and shapes to their everyday life, and they'll solve problems involving numbers, patterns, measurement and data analysis.

*Scaling up!* In Grade 6, your child will explore different rhythms and scales and will perform songs written in a variety of scales. They will study electronic music and the structures in longer forms of music, as well as key signatures and timbre.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.



SCIENCE

*How do things fly?* Designing, building and testing flying objects in teams helps Grade 6 students develop as scientists. In Grade 6, students also learn about the night sky, planets, forests and trees. They will sharpen their skills in observing and interpreting what they see by investigating evidence of human and animal activity.



SOCIAL STUDIES

*What is democracy? How does it work in Alberta?* Your child will explore how democratic principles are reflected in local and provincial governments. They'll also examine historical models of democracy and the political roles played by citizens in the past and today.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

DRAMA  
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CHILD'S EDUCATION  
BY VISITING

My Child's Learning: A Parent  
Resource

<http://www.mychildslearning.alberta.ca>



## ASSESSMENT

Your child's learning is assessed using a variety of tools and strategies within the classroom. Ask your child's teacher what methods they are using. The different assessment methods tell you and your child's teacher about your child's strengths, the areas in which they might grow and how well your child is doing throughout their courses. Your child's teacher can then change or refine their teaching plans to ensure that learning activities better meet the needs of your child.

In Grade 6, your child will write provincial achievement tests in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. These tests provide information about your child's achievement compared with the achievement of children in the same grade from across the province. Teachers will often use provincial achievement test results to reflect on how the courses have been taught and how to better assist children's learning, and they'll use this information to report on your child's level of achievement. For more information about provincial assessment for Grade 6, contact Learner Assessment by telephone at 780-427-0010 (toll-free within Alberta by first dialling 310-0000) or by e-mail at [LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca).

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Fax: 780-422-0576

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2011-2012

# GRADE 7 AT A GLANCE

we educate



*I'm in junior high! Grade 7 is exciting and challenging. Students in Grade 7 take six required subjects: English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Additional optional subjects are also offered.*



ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE ARTS

*I can use different text forms to help me express my ideas. Grade 7 students extend their understanding by finding different ways to express ideas, such as through magazine ads or brochures. They analyze how story lines progress, considering settings and characters, and make notes using headings, subheadings or symbols.*



HEALTH AND  
LIFE SKILLS

*My friends like me for who I am. I have a lot to offer! Grade 7 students become aware that they need to show more responsibility in their grooming, organization, study habits and relationships with others.*



MATHEMATICS

*Let's experiment with slides, rotations and reflections of shapes. and express these movements with mathematics. Your child will connect numbers and shapes to their everyday life and continue to explore ways to solve problems. They'll use tables, graphs, equations and words to explain number patterns that they observe around them. Your child will also create personal strategies to add and subtract fractions and integers.*



PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle? Your child will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.*



SCIENCE

*How are heat and temperature different? Your child will begin the study of energy, matter and forces and analyze and communicate understandings of Earth and its ecosystems. Grade 7 Science focuses on the science- and technology-related knowledge and skills your child needs in order to solve problems and make decisions about social and environmental issues.*



SOCIAL STUDIES

*How has Canada changed over time? What kinds of changes have there been and why? Your child will explore the people and events that led to Canadian Confederation, and the major changes in Canadian life since then that have shaped citizenship and identity in our diverse society.*

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

ART  
CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES (CTS)  
DRAMA  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION  
ETHICS  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (FSL)  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES  
MUSIC

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2011-2012

# GRADE 8 AT A GLANCE

**we educate**



*What interests me? What am I good at and passionate about?*  
Grade 8 students take six required subjects to learn more about themselves and the world: English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Exciting optional subjects are also available.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS



MATHEMATICS



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*Analyze ends with -lyze. so paralyze, which sounds similar, likely ends the same way!* Your teen will study and create their own texts, including oral, print and visual texts, as they develop listening and speaking, reading and writing, viewing and representing, and inquiry and research skills.

*I have an idea of what I'd like to do in the future. It is just a few years away!* More than ever, your teen will see who they are and what they believe. They will begin to understand what it means to keep good relationships and make choices that help them a long way into the future.

*What are perfect square numbers and what are some of their special properties?* Grade 8 students solve a range of mathematical problems involving elements like surface area, volume, the Pythagorean theorem, percents, ratios and rates. It is important that they continue to use their own strategies to multiply and divide fractions and integers. Students model and solve algebraic equations, and they connect numbers and shapes to their everyday lives.

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your teen will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.



SCIENCE

*How do hydraulics work and why do we have an epiglottis?* Students apply this Grade 8 Science vocabulary as they investigate machines and the human body. They experiment with liquids and gases to interpret their uses in everyday situations, and they learn how light travels through different materials and how vision works.

*How do people in different societies view the world and influence each other?* Contact between societies that view the world in different ways has shaped our world. Through inquiry, your teen will reflect on their own worldview and assess the influence that the past has on the present. By examining historical examples drawn from Japan, Renaissance Europe and Spanish and Aztec societies, your teen will better understand how contact between societies can lead to change.



SOCIAL STUDIES

**ART**  
**CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES (CTS)**  
**DRAMA**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION**  
**ETHICS**  
**FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES**  
**FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (FSL)**  
**INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES**  
**MUSIC**

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Version française disponible

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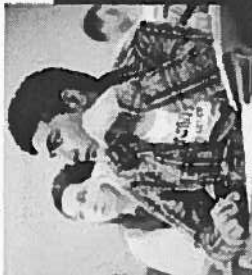
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# GRADE 9 AT A GLANCE



**we educate**

**Wow! The last year of junior high!** To prepare for high school, Grade 9 students are required to take six subjects: English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. They can choose from additional optional subjects to round out their curriculum.



ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE ARTS

*I want to develop language and communication skills and experience success in ELA!* Grade 9 students examine ideas, experiences and information from points of view that differ from their own. They discuss how different people take away different meanings from the same material. Using different sources of information, they continue to develop their own opinions and impressions.



HEALTH AND  
LIFE SKILLS

*Who knew that my fun volunteering could help me get a job in the future!* Students understand how their choices today have a long-term effect. Who they choose to look up to and which group they choose to be a part of play a role.



MATHEMATICS

*Scale and symmetry can be seen everywhere!* Grade 9 students solve problems involving positive and negative decimals and fractions. They use personal strategies to add, subtract, multiply and divide simple polynomials. Students write and solve equations and inequalities and describe circle properties, scale diagrams and symmetry. They connect numbers and mathematical ideas to their everyday lives and explore ways to solve problems involving numbers, equations, measurement and data analysis.



PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your teen will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.



SCIENCE

*Can you make sense of the periodic table?* Students in Grade 9 Science work safely with chemicals to explain, interpret and extend their understanding of chemical theory. They also design, test and evaluate electrical devices that transfer and transform energy, and they explore the role of genes and DNA in the diversity of life. Students study space exploration and how science and technology are related.



SOCIAL STUDIES

*How do our government and economy work? How do they affect me?* Grade 9 Social Studies focuses on citizenship, identity and quality of life. Students will examine the relationships between Canada's political and legislative processes, and they'll examine the impact of these processes on governance, rights, citizenship and identity. Students will also explore issues of economics and their impact on quality of life, citizenship and identity in Canada and the United States.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

ART  
CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES (CTS)  
DRAMA  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION  
ETHICS  
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2011-2012

# HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AND LIFE MANAGEMENT AT A GLANCE

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## CAREER AND LIFE MANAGEMENT (CALM)

*I want to make good choices in life.* Your teen will enhance their ability to make good choices today and in the future. They will examine health holistically: the emotional, intellectual, social, spiritual and physical dimensions. They will learn how to make responsible choices about money and other resources, and they'll learn that their decisions are based on their values and goals. Your teen will continue to plot out their career path as they plan for life after high school.

### Exemptions from CALM

If your teen is not at the age of majority or living independently, you have the right to exempt them from school instruction in human sexuality education by submitting a letter to the school indicating your intention to do so. Schools will provide alternative learning experiences for those students who have been exempted from human sexuality instruction at the request of their parents. Students must complete the remainder of the course in order to receive credits. Students may be exempted completely from CALM for only two reasons: out-of-province Grade 12 students transferring into Alberta schools; religious beliefs. Contact the principal of the school about these exemptions.

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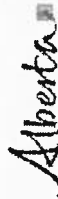
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# HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AT A GLANCE

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## ELA 10-1

*I want to explore literature and develop strong communication skills.* In ELA 10-1, students analyze and respond to literature, including extended texts (a novel/novella, a feature film, and a modern or Shakespearean play) and shorter texts (poetry, short stories, visual and multimedia, and essays) that relate to cultural and societal issues in Canadian and global contexts. They also create their own texts; e.g., fiction, nonfiction, poetry, presentations/media. This course is for students considering careers that require strong reading and communication skills and for those who may be interested in post-secondary education.

## ELA 20-1

*I want to explore literature more deeply and develop my communication skills.* In ELA 20-1, students analyze and respond to literature, including extended texts (a novel, a nonfiction book or feature film, and a Shakespearean play) and shorter texts (poetry, short stories, visual and multimedia, and essays) that relate to cultural and societal issues in Canadian and global contexts. They also create their own texts; e.g., fiction, nonfiction/persuasive writing, presentations/media, scripts. This course is for students considering careers that require strong reading and communication skills and for those who may be interested in post-secondary education.

## ELA 30-1

*I want to demonstrate critical thinking about literature and communication.* In ELA 30-1, students analyze and respond to literature, including extended texts (a novel or nonfiction book, a feature film or modern play, and a Shakespearean play) and shorter texts (poetry, short stories, visual and multimedia, essays, and popular nonfiction) that relate to cultural and societal issues in Canadian and global contexts. They also create their own texts; e.g., fiction, nonfiction/persuasive writing, presentations/media. This course is for students considering careers that may require strong reading and communication skills and for those interested in post-secondary education.

## ELA 10-2

*I want to begin to study material I am comfortable with and communicate well with others.* In ELA 10-2, students with diverse abilities and goals study different types of texts, written at various levels, that explore issues in Canadian and global contexts. They study extended texts (a novel or nonfiction book, a feature film, and a modern or Shakespearean play) and shorter texts (poetry, short stories, visual and multimedia, and popular nonfiction). Students are also encouraged to create their own texts; e.g., fiction, nonfiction and reports, poetry, and presentations/media. Material will often have daily life or practical applications for students. This course is designed for students considering careers that require basic reading and communication skills and for those interested in a range of post-secondary education or other opportunities.

## ELA 20-2

*I want to continue to study material that is relevant to my life and that strengthens my communication with others.* In ELA 20-2, students with diverse abilities and goals study different types of texts, written at various levels, that explore issues in Canadian and global contexts. They study extended texts (a novel, a nonfiction book or feature film, and a modern or Shakespearean play) and shorter texts (poetry, short stories, visual and multimedia, and popular nonfiction). Students are also encouraged to create their own texts; e.g., fiction, nonfiction and proposals, scripts, and presentations/media. Material will often have daily life or practical applications for students. This course is designed for students considering careers that require basic reading and communication skills and for those interested in a range of post-secondary education or other opportunities.

## ELA 30-2

*I have a deeper understanding of relevant materials and can communicate clearly with others.* In ELA 30-2, students with diverse abilities and goals study different types of texts, written at various levels, that explore issues in Canadian and global contexts. They study extended texts (a novel or nonfiction book, a feature film, and a modern or Shakespearean play) and shorter texts (poetry, short stories, visual and multimedia, essays, and popular nonfiction). Students are also encouraged to create their own texts; e.g., fiction, nonfiction, presentations/media. Material will often have daily life or practical applications for students. This course is designed for students considering careers that require basic reading and communication skills and for those interested in a range of post-secondary education or other opportunities.

## ELA 10-4

*I want to develop language skills that will help me succeed.* In Knowledge and Employability ELA 10-4, students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills in ELA are shown additional strategies for success. Materials have practical applications for students and support development of reading comprehension, communication and other occupational skills. Students may also be required to create their own brief texts. This course is part of a sequence designed for students who may transition directly into the world of work, pursue further training/courses or pursue other opportunities that may not require post-secondary education.

## ELA 20-4

*I want to continue to develop my language skills to be more successful in ELA.* In Knowledge and Employability ELA 20-4, students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills in ELA are shown additional strategies for success. Materials have practical applications for students and support development of reading comprehension, communication and other occupational skills. Students may be required to create their own brief texts. This course is part of a sequence designed for students who may transition directly into the world of work, pursue further training/courses or pursue other opportunities that may not require post-secondary education.

## ELA 30-4

*I want to demonstrate clear language skills and success in ELA to support my goals for work and life.* In Knowledge and Employability ELA 30-4, students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills in ELA are shown additional strategies for success. Materials have practical applications for students and support development of reading comprehension, communication and other occupational skills. Students may be required to create their own brief texts. This course is the last in a sequence designed for students who may transition directly into the world of work, pursue further training/courses or pursue other opportunities that may not require post-secondary education.



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At the end of ELA 30-1 or ELA 30-2, your teen will write a provincial diploma examination. Your teen's final mark in ELA 30-1 or ELA 30-2 will be the average of the school-awarded mark and the diploma examination mark (the average is determined by taking 50% of the school-awarded mark and adding it to 50% of the diploma examination mark). Your teen must achieve a final mark of 50% or higher to obtain credits for the course. For general information about diploma examinations and for course-specific diploma examination information, contact Learner Assessment by telephone at 780-427-0010 (toll-free within Alberta by first dialling 310-0000) or by e-mail at [LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca).

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# HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS AT A GLANCE



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## MATHEMATICS 10C

Mathematics 10C students determine the surface area and volume of 3-D objects and use trigonometric ratios to solve problems involving right triangles. They simplify expressions that involve powers with integral and rational exponents and simplify or factor polynomial expressions. At this level, students also analyze linear relations, solve systems of linear equations and solve problems related to both of these sets of skills.

## MATHEMATICS 20-1

Mathematics 20-1 students investigate arithmetic and geometric patterns and use the sine and cosine laws to solve problems involving triangles. They investigate the properties of radicals and rational expressions. Mathematics 20-1 students also analyze the characteristics of absolute value functions and quadratic functions, solve quadratic equations and systems of equations in various ways, and analyze the relationship between a function and its reciprocal.

## PURE MATHEMATICS 30

Pure Mathematics 30 students investigate transformations of functions and relations, create and analyze exponential patterns and investigate exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions. They classify and describe conic sections, solve problems involving normal and binomial probability distributions and solve other problems based on the counting and probability of sets.

## MATHEMATICS 31

Mathematics 31 students determine the limit of a function at finite or infinite values of the independent variable. They use derivative theorems to determine the derivative of a function, either explicitly or implicitly, and use derivatives to sketch graphs of functions and solve optimization problems. They also investigate the relationship between differentiation and integration.

## MATHEMATICS 20-2

Mathematics 20-2 students use proportional reasoning to solve real-life problems involving 2-D shapes and 3-D objects. They use the properties of angles and triangles, including the sine and cosine laws, to solve problems; use reasoning to prove conjectures; use spatial reasoning to solve puzzles; and solve problems that involve radicals. They interpret statistical data, solve problems involving quadratics and research and present a mathematical topic of their choice.

## APPLIED MATHEMATICS 30

Applied Mathematics 30 students design or use spreadsheets to make financial decisions; explore matrices to solve problems; analyze objects, shapes and processes to solve cost and design problems; and solve problems involving vectors in two and three dimensions. They explore cyclic, recursive and fractal patterns; solve problems involving the counting and arranging of sets; and solve other problems involving probabilities and probability distributions.

## MATHEMATICS 10-3

Mathematics 10-3 students solve linear and area measurement problems of 2-D shapes and 3-D objects using SI and imperial units. They use spatial reasoning to solve puzzles; solve problems involving right triangles and angles; solve unit pricing, currency exchange and income problems; and manipulate formulas to solve problems. They also use scale factors and parallel and perpendicular lines to solve problems.

## MATHEMATICS 20-3

Mathematics 20-3 students solve surface area, volume and capacity problems. They use primary trigonometry to solve problems involving two or three right triangles, and model and draw 3-D objects and their views to scale. They use numerical reasoning to solve puzzles; create and analyze personal budgets; use proportional reasoning, unit analysis and manipulation of formulas to solve problems; and create and interpret graphs. Students use their understanding of slope and rate of change to interpret graphs.

## MATHEMATICS 10-4

Knowledge and Employability Mathematics 10-4 students solve everyday problems involving numbers and percents; explore patterns, variables, expressions and equations to solve problems; and solve problems involving estimation, measurement and comparison of objects. Students use visualization and symmetry to explore objects, shapes, patterns and designs; develop and apply a plan to collect, display and analyze data and information; and connect mathematical ideas to their everyday lives. Students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills will be provided with additional strategies for success in the Knowledge and Employability -4 course sequence.

## MATHEMATICS 20-4

Knowledge and Employability Mathematics 20-4 students solve everyday problems involving numbers and percents, and decide if the processes used are reasonable. They explore patterns, variables and expressions, and interpret variables, equations and relationships, to solve problems in practical situations. They estimate, measure and compare objects; read and interpret scale drawings and maps; develop and apply a plan to collect, display and analyze information; and use probability and statistics to make predictions and decisions. In most of their studies, Mathematics 20-4 students connect mathematical ideas to their everyday lives. Students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills will be provided with additional strategies for success in the Knowledge and Employability -4 course sequence.





### ASSESSMENT

Learning is assessed using a variety of tools and strategies within the classroom. Ask the teacher what methods they are using. The different assessment methods tell you, your teen and your teen's teacher about your teen's strengths, the areas in which they might grow and how well they are doing throughout a course. At the end of the course, your teen will be assessed and their achievement will be reported so that you know if they have achieved the expected learning outcomes for the course.

At the end of Applied Mathematics 30 or Pure Mathematics 30, your teen will write a provincial diploma examination. Your teen's final mark in Applied Mathematics 30 or Pure Mathematics 30 will be the average of the school-awarded mark and the diploma examination mark (the average is determined by taking 50% of the school-awarded mark and adding it to 50% of the diploma examination mark). Your teen must achieve a final mark of 50% or higher to obtain credits for the course. For general information about diploma examinations and for course-specific diploma examination information, contact Learner Assessment by telephone at 780-427-0010 (toll-free within Alberta by first dialling 310-0000) or by e-mail at [LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca).

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### RESOURCES

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Fax: 780-422-0576

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2011-2012

# HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AT A GLANCE

ALB  educate

You play an integral role in your teen's education by providing the encouragement and support he or she needs to succeed.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10-20-30

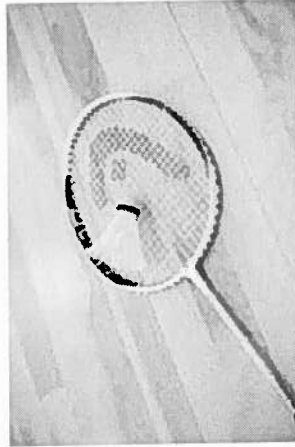
*I want to have fun, learn skills and be healthy.* Through activities in the school and community, your teen will explore their physical abilities and improve their fitness level. They will understand that fitness impacts well-being and body image. Communicating with others, your teen will develop a sense of fair play and exercise their leadership abilities. They will discover the importance of safe, active living for life; set goals; and challenge themselves as part of an active, healthy lifestyle.

### Exemptions from Physical Education

Exemptions from participation in physical education may be given for medical conditions, when a medical certificate from a doctor is presented to the principal, for religious beliefs, when a statement in writing from the parent is presented to the principal; and when access to facilities is prohibitive. When exemption is granted, activities consistent with the program outcomes should be substituted, where appropriate.

## ASSESSMENT

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Government of Alberta





### SCIENCE 10

*What happened to that energy?* Science 10 students are introduced to the biological, chemical, physical and Earth sciences. By studying chemical reactions, cellular and multicellular processes that occur in plants, the conservation and conversion of energy, and Earth's climate, they discover how energy is transformed.

### SCIENCE 20

*What changes do we see on Earth?* Students in Science 20 extend their study of the biological, chemical, physical and Earth sciences and apply their knowledge to real-life problems. They investigate Newton's laws of motion, the properties of hydrocarbons and the chemistry of solutions. They examine evidence of how Earth's surface, climate and life forms have changed and continue to change and cycle in response to natural and human actions.

### SCIENCE 30

*How do we sustain our energy resources?* Students sharpen their scientific skills and explore a wide range of scientific concepts to strengthen their foundations in science. They investigate human systems and health, and environmentally sustainable solutions for meeting global energy needs. They also examine the impacts of chemicals in society and the environment and examine the properties and applications of electromagnetic energy.

### BIOLOGY 20

*How and why does energy flow through living systems?* Biology 20 students examine the interactions of living systems to better understand the constant flow of energy and the cycling of matter. Specifically, students explore the functioning of the human body and the mechanisms that work to maintain balance in organisms, in ecosystems and in the biosphere.

### BIOLOGY 30

*Why is there so much diversity?* Biology 30 students conduct lab work and investigate how human systems sense and respond to the environment. They explore human reproduction and development at the cellular level and at the organism level. Students investigate the basic structure and role of DNA and investigate the inheritance of traits in individuals and populations. They analyze the changes in populations resulting from natural and human-induced changes in the environment and discover that living systems are dynamic.

### CHEMISTRY 20

*How do atoms combine to create matter?* Students explore matter and how it changes in order to understand the natural world. They investigate the chemical properties of solutions, and they apply their understanding of chemical bonds to explain ionic and molecular compounds. Chemistry 20 students explain the behaviour of gases, using the gas laws, and also work to balance chemical equations.

### CHEMISTRY 30

*How can you predict chemical equilibrium?* Chemistry 30 students examine and quantify how thermochemical and electrochemical systems use or provide energy. They explore common organic compounds—those that contain carbon—and how they are used in technological applications and everyday life. Students also investigate acid-base reactions and interpret how they eventually reach equilibrium.

### PHYSICS 20

*How does a lacrosse player know when to release the ball?* Physics 20 students investigate the motion of objects. They apply Newton's law of universal gravitation to astronomical observations. They also describe how energy is transmitted by mechanical waves and how waves relate to medical technologies, industry and musical instruments.

### PHYSICS 30

*When does a model or a theory need to change?* Physics 30 students consider historical experiments and explore why the model of the atom has changed as a result of experiments and observations of natural phenomena. Students apply a quantitative approach to describe conservation of momentum in an isolated system, and they investigate applications and implications of electric and magnetic forces and fields. They also use the concept of wave-particle duality to understand both wave and photon behaviour of electromagnetic radiations.

### SCIENCE 14

*How can we conserve energy?* Science 14 students learn about the atom, the periodic table and the safe handling of chemicals. They investigate how energy is transferred in machines, and they examine the digestive and circulatory systems, including ways to keep these systems healthy. Students also explore how human activities influence the flow of matter and energy in the biosphere.

### SCIENCE 24

*Why do we need vaccines and antibiotics?* Science 24 students investigate common chemical reactions and examine energy conversions in biological, chemical, physical and technological systems. They learn about human health and the immune system. They also investigate the principles that describe the motion of objects and apply their knowledge to real-life situations.

### SCIENCE 10-4

*What should I do to keep my body healthy?* Knowledge and Employability Science 10-4 students explore the digestive and circulatory systems of the human body. They investigate common chemicals used at home and in the workplace, and how to safely handle them. Students discover how force and heat energy are transferred in technologies they use in their daily lives, and they ask questions about how human activities affect the natural world. Students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills will be provided with additional strategies for success in the Knowledge and Employability -4 course sequence.

### SCIENCE 20-4

*How do seat belts keep me safe?* In Knowledge and Employability Science 20-4, students gain an understanding of the applications of science skills and knowledge for success at home, at work and in the community. They investigate and classify simple chemical reactions; learn about energy conversions and conservation; and examine how social, environmental and genetic factors affect human health. They also apply their knowledge of moving objects and conservation of momentum to transportation safety. Students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills will be provided with additional strategies for success in the Knowledge and Employability -4 course sequence.



### ASSESSMENT

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2011-2012

# HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES AT A GLANCE

we educate



## SOCIAL STUDIES 10-1

*What is globalization and how does it affect us?* Social Studies 10-1 students explore the changing meaning of identity and citizenship in a globalizing world, while also understanding the impacts of globalization, both positive and negative, on people worldwide.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 20-1

*What is nationalism and how does it affect us?* Social Studies 20-1 students look at the origins and effects of nationalism and weigh its benefits and limitations. They examine issues related to nationalism and consider impacts on individuals, international relations and citizenship.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 30-1

*What are ideologies and how do they affect us?* Social Studies 30-1 students examine multiple perspectives on various ideologies and on the influence of these ideologies, focusing particularly on liberalism. They develop an understanding of how ideologies can shape us and our world.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 10-2

*What is globalization and how does it impact me?* Social Studies 10-2 students explore the history and effects of globalization. They develop an understanding of the impact that globalization has on people's identity and citizenship, while addressing emerging issues that globalization presents.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 20-2

*What is nationalism and how does it affect me?* In Social Studies 20-2, students examine the origins and effects of nationalism from various perspectives, developing an understanding of the impact of nationalism on individuals, international relations and citizenship in Canada.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 30-2

*What are ideologies and how do they affect us?* Social Studies 30-2 students will examine multiple perspectives on various ideologies, focusing in particular on liberalism. They will develop an understanding of how ideologies can shape us and our world.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 10-4

*What is globalization and how does it affect me?* Knowledge and Employability Social Studies 10-4 students will look at the history of globalization and understand various viewpoints on the effects that globalization has on individuals, local communities and the world as a whole. Students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills will be provided with additional strategies for success in the Knowledge and Employability -4 course sequence.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 20-4

*What is nationalism and how does it affect us?* In Knowledge and Employability Social Studies 20-4, students explore the development of nationalism as well as its effects, considering various perspectives on the idea of nation in Canada. They develop an understanding of the impact of nationalism on individuals, international relations and citizenship. Students who have experienced challenges or difficulty with their skills will be provided with additional strategies for success in the Knowledge and Employability -4 course sequence.

2011-2012

## SOCIAL STUDIES AT A GLANCE

## HIGH SCHOOL



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