

## 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 for Parents
- Programs of Study on the Alberta Education Web site.

## 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.* It is available from the Learning Resources Centre at 780-427-2767. Dial 780-310-0000 for a toll-free connection.
- **LearnAlberta.ca Web site**—*Online multimedia learning resources that directly relate to the Alberta programs of study.* <http://www.learnalberta.ca>
- **TELUS 2Learn Web site**—*An education-business partnership that provides Internet inservice, support and mentorship for Alberta teachers.* <http://www.2learn.ca>

Alberta Education has produced a resource, **Yes, You Can Help! Information and Inspiration for French Immersion Parents**, that provides information and answers the questions parents may have about French immersion such as: What is immersion?; How can I help my child if I don't

speak French?; Will my child's English suffer?; Should my child remain in French immersion in junior and senior high school? It is available from the Learning Resources Centre at 780-427-2767. Dial 780-310-0000 for a toll-free connection.

## 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.

## Languages Other than English

- Blackfoot
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- Cree
- French as a second language
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Punjabi
- Spanish
- Ukrainian
- Other

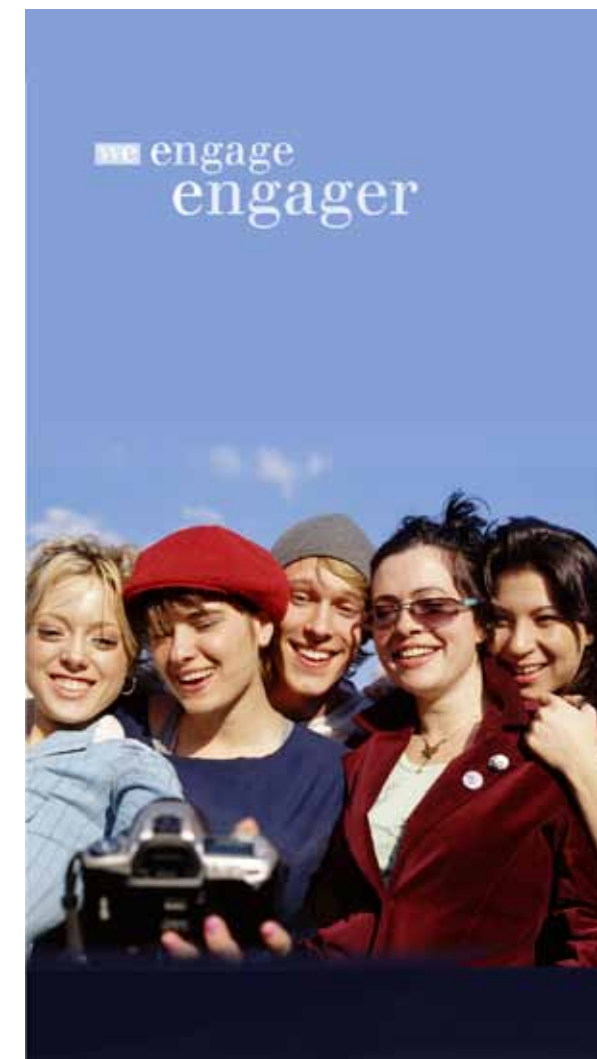
These languages may be available at your child's school. For more information, contact your local school board.

## Where Can I Get More Information?

- The Alberta Education Web site  
<http://www.education.alberta.ca>
- Arts, Communications and Citizenship  
Tel.: 780-427-2984 Fax: 780-422-3745  
E-mail: [curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca](mailto:curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca)
- Digital Design and Resource Authorization  
Tel.: 780-427-2984 Fax: 780-422-3745  
E-mail: [curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca](mailto:curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca)
- Distributed Learning  
Tel.: 780-674-5350 Fax: 780-674-6561  
E-mail: [DLB.General@gov.ab.ca](mailto:DLB.General@gov.ab.ca)
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Services  
Tel.: 780-415-9300 Fax: 780-415-9306  
E-mail: [FNMIservices@gov.ab.ca](mailto:FNMIservices@gov.ab.ca)
- French Language Education Services  
Tel.: 780-427-2940 Fax: 780-422-1947  
E-mail: [def@edc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:def@edc.gov.ab.ca)
- Inclusive Learning Supports  
Tél. : 780-422-6326 Téléc. : 780-422-2039  
E-mail: [inclusivelearningsupports@gov.ab.ca](mailto:inclusivelearningsupports@gov.ab.ca)
- Learner Assessment  
Tel.: 780-427-0010 Fax: 780-422-4200  
E-mail: [LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca](mailto:LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca)
- Mathematics and Science  
Tel. : 780-427-2984 Fax: 780-422-3745  
E-mail: [curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca](mailto:curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca)

2011 2012

## French Immersion | Curriculum Grade 8 | Summary



# 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.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Students develop oral comprehension by:**  
 • working in groups  
 • listening to texts from various subject areas  
 • listening to short stories or chapters from novels  
 • listening to and viewing audiovisual materials.

**Students develop oral skills by:**  
 • using expressions or words to describe events and their experiences  
 • using the following sequence: subject noun (or subject pronoun) + complement pronoun + verb  
 • using the present subjunctive.

## FRENCH LANGUAGE ARTS

**Students develop reading comprehension by:**  
 • reading descriptive texts  
 • reading information and opinion texts  
 • reading texts from the imaginary world, e.g. poetry  
 • developing various ways of annotating texts.

**Students develop writing skills by:**  
 • writing short texts that emphasize structure and organization  
 • writing short stories that establish links between the characters' feelings and their actions  
 • integrating the following basic elements:  
 – choosing a text structure consistent with their communicative intent  
 – the use of the present subjunctive  
 – the agreement of subject and verb in the present conditional and future tenses  
 – recognizing and correcting syntactic anglicisms.

**Health Benefits**  
 • acknowledge the perceptions of body types resulting from media influence  
 • 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.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**Cooperation**  
 • communicate thoughts and feelings in an appropriate and respectful manner  
 • apply and practice 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.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

From Isolation to Adaptation: Japan

Origins of a Western Worldview: Renaissance Europe

Worldviews in Conflict: The Spanish and the Aztecs

## MATHEMATICS

**Number**  
 • demonstrate an understanding of multiplication and division of integers and fractions  
 • 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 interpret views of 3-D objects.

**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.

## SCIENCE

Freshwater and Saltwater Systems

The Mix and Flow of Matter

Mechanical Systems

Cells and Systems

Light and Optical Systems

Career and Technology Studies

Locally Developed Courses

## OPTIONAL COURSES

Fine Arts: Art, Drama and Music

Environmental and Outdoor Education

**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.