

ELA Skills Are Infused Throughout All Defined Learning Projects and Performance Tasks

All Defined Learning courses K-12 are built around the skills of reading, writing, research, speaking, and listening. Below are examples of how these skills — along with critical thinking, effective communication, and information literacy — are woven throughout Defined Learning resources, projects, performance tasks, and courses.



Literature

In addition to all the K-5 ELA courses, all K-5 tasks include suggested books that can be used as research resources, read alouds, independent reading, or partner reading.

Multiple courses that incorporate literature are also available for middle and high school.



Research to Build and Present Knowledge

K-12 tasks encourage students to conduct research projects. In the research process, they gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information. At the secondary level, students also draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.



Informational Text

K-5 students engage with informational text in every task through constructed responses. These responses are written at an elementary reading level, ensuring accessibility for young learners, while also providing essential background knowledge to support task completion.

Within secondary tasks, there are embedded opportunities for research that students use to gather information. The knowledge and ideas they gain are used to undertake problem-solving and product development.



Speaking and Listening

Integrated within K-12 performance tasks are numerous opportunities for students to present their ideas and findings through oral means, including presentations, debates, and podcasts. Many of these opportunities also encourage students to conduct research and create presentations using multimedia.



Writing

Throughout all K-12 tasks, students are encouraged to conduct research and then communicate what they have learned through informational, argumentative/ persuasive, or writing that incorporates both. Common products connected to writing are reports, stories, articles, proposals, and letters.