

New Curriculum Big Ideas
Reference Document for Teacher Planning and Communicating Student Learning

The following compilation is from the first draft of the new curriculum. It is a living document and as the Ministry of Education adds to the document this resource will be updated in the portal. Please contact kdawson@sd71.bc.ca if you notice that this reference document has not been updated.

Grade 6

Big Idea	Pop Out
Language Arts	
Language and text can be a source of creativity and joy	(text) Oral, written, visual, or digital communication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral texts include speeches, poems, plays, and oral stories • Written texts include novels, articles, and short stories • Visual texts include posters, photographs, and other images • Digital texts include electronic forms of all the above • Oral, written, and visual elements can be combined (e.g. in dramatic presentations, graphic novels, films, web pages, advertisements)
Exploring text and story helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world.	(story) Narrative texts that teach us about human nature, motivation, behaviour, and experience, and often reflect a personal journey or strengthen a sense of identity. They may also be considered the embodiment of collective wisdom. Stories can be oral, written, or visual, and used to instruct, inspire, and entertain listeners and readers.
Exploring and sharing multiple perspectives extends our thinking.	
Developing our understanding of how language works allows us to use it purposefully.	
Texts are created for different purposes and audiences.	
Synthesizing the meaning from different texts and ideas helps us create new understandings.	
Mathematics	
Numbers can be represented in many forms and reflect different relationships.	
Numeracy helps us to see patterns, communicate ideas, and solve problems.	
Patterns allow us to see relationships and develop generalizations.	
Geometry and measurement empower us to make meaning of the world.	
We can apply mathematics to inquiry questions and use it to communicate information and data.	
Data enable us to draw conclusions and make predictions in an unstable world.	
Science	

Multicellular organisms rely on internal systems to survive, reproduce, and interact with their environment.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are internal systems necessary for survival? • What do your body systems require for survival? • How do your body systems interact with one another?
Everyday materials are often homogeneous solutions and heterogeneous mixtures.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a heterogeneous mixture? • How does it compare to a homogeneous (solution) mixture?
Newton's three laws of motion describe the relationship between force and motion.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the difference between motion caused by balanced forces and motion caused by unbalanced forces? • How are balanced and unbalanced forces evident in your life and activities?
The solar system is part of the Milky Way, which is one of billions of galaxies.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the relationships between Earth and the rest of the universe? • What is an extreme environment? • What extreme environments exist on Earth or in our galaxy?
Social Studies	
Economic self-interest can be a significant cause of conflict among peoples and governments.	
Complex global problems require international cooperation to make difficult choices for the future.	
Systems of government vary in their respect for human rights and freedoms.	
Media sources can both positively and negatively affect our understanding of important events and issues.	
Career Education	
<p>Main focus is on Exploration. Understanding deepens through Exploration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal identity • Relationship between students' interests, attributes, competencies, and knowledge of career development • Goal setting • Community connections • Transferable skills • Leadership skills • First capstone project 	<p>Exploration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Ideas, Curricular competencies, and Content by stage.
Physical and Health Education	
Daily physical activity enables us to practice skillful movement and helps us develop personal fitness.	
Physical literacy and fitness contribute to our success in and enjoyment of physical activity.	
We experience many changes in our lives that influence how we see ourselves and others.	
Healthy choices influence our physical, emotional, and mental well-being.	

Learning about similarities and differences in individuals and groups influences community health.	
Arts Education	
Engaging in creative expression and experiences expands people's sense of identity and community.	
Artistic expressions differ across time and place.	
Dance, drama, music, and visual arts are each unique languages for creating and communicating.	(communicating) Art itself is a form of communication.
Experiencing art is a means to develop empathy for others' perspectives and experiences.	(art) Includes but is not limited to the four disciplines of dance, drama, music, and visual arts.
Core French	
Listening and viewing with intent help us understand a message.	
Language learners use strategies to help them understand and acquire language.	
Meaningful communication is possible in French using simple, high-frequency words and patterns.	
With basic French, we can describe important people in our lives.	
Stories allow us to understand ideas in a meaningful way.	
Learning about a Francophone community helps us develop cultural awareness.	