

**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](mailto:kdawson@sd71.bc.ca) if you notice that this reference document has not been updated.

**Grade 7**

**Big Idea**

**Pop Out**

**Language Arts**

Language and text can be a source of creativity and joy.

- (text) Oral, written, visual, or digital communication:
- 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**

The theory of evolution by natural selection provides an explanation for the diversity and survival of living things.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do ecosystems and Earth systems change over time?</li> <li>• How do these changes affect biodiversity?</li> </ul>
Elements consist of one type of atom, and compounds consist of atoms of different elements chemically combined.	
The electromagnetic force produces both electricity and magnetism.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is electricity generated?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between electricity and magnetism?</li> </ul>
Earth and its climate have changed over geological time.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How and why have Earth and its climate changed over time?</li> <li>• How do people and their practices impact earth and its climate?</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies</b>	
Geographic conditions shaped the emergence of civilizations	
Religious and cultural practices that emerged during this period have endured and continue to influence people.	
Increasingly complex societies required new systems of laws and government.	
Economic specialization and trade networks can lead to conflict and cooperation between societies.	
<b>Career Education</b>	
<p>Main focus is on Exploration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal identity</li> <li>• Relationship between students' interests, attributes, competencies, and knowledge of career development</li> <li>• Goal setting</li> <li>• Community connections</li> <li>• Transferable skills</li> <li>• Leadership skills</li> <li>• First capstone project</li> </ul>	<p>Exploration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big ideas, Curricular competencies, and content by stage</li> </ul>
<b>Physical and Health Education</b>	
Daily participation in different types of physical activity influences our physical literacy and personal health and fitness goals.	
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.	
<b>Arts Education</b>	
Through art making, one's sense of identity and community continually evolves.	(art) Includes, but is not limited to the four disciplines of dance, drama, music, and visual arts.

Experiencing art challenges our point of view and expands our understanding of others.	
Dance, drama, music, and visual arts are each unique languages for creating and communicating.	(communicating) Art itself is a form of communication.
Engaging in the arts develops people's ability to understand and express complex ideas.	
<b>Core French</b>	
Listening and viewing with intent help us understand an increasing variety of messages.	
Meaningful interactions are possible even with limited French.	
With basic French, we can explain why things are of interest to us and others.	
Stories allow us to understand ideas in a meaningful way.	
There are vibrant Francophone communities in many regions of the world.	
Francophone communities in different parts of the world have similarities and differences.	