

# GR 8 Unit 3 (Places We Call Home)

Content Area: **English Language Arts**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**  
Length: **6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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Unit Title: Places We Call Home

Essential Question: What are the places that shape who you are?

## Standards

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ELA.L.SS.8.1.C	Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.
ELA.L.SS.8.1.E	Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break.
ELA.L.SS.8.1.F	Use an ellipsis to indicate an omission.
ELA.L.KL.8.2.A	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases.
ELA.L.KL.8.2.B	Gather vocabulary knowledge when selecting a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
ELA.L.VL.8.3.A	Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
ELA.L.VL.8.3.B	Analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.
ELA.L.VL.8.3.D	Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.
ELA.L.VL.8.3.E	Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
ELA.L.VI.8.4.C	Analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
ELA.RL.CR.8.1	Cite a range of textual evidence and make clear and relevant connections to strongly support an analysis of multiple aspects of what a literary text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
ELA.RI.CR.8.1	Cite a range of textual evidence and make clear and relevant connections (including informational text features such as charts, graphs, and diagrams) that strongly support an analysis of multiple aspects of what an informational text says explicitly, as well as inferences drawn from the text.
ELA.RL.CI.8.2	Determine a theme of a literary text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
ELA.RI.CI.8.2	Determine a central idea of an informational text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

ELA.RL.IT.8.3	Analyze how particular elements of a text interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot, how ideas influence individuals or events, or how characters influence ideas or events) across multiple text types, including across literary and informational texts.
ELA.RI.IT.8.3	Analyze how particular elements of a text interact (e.g., how contexts influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events) across multiple text types, including across literary and informational texts.
ELA.RI.TS.8.4	Analyze and explain how an author organizes, develops and presents ideas, establishes a point of view or builds supporting arguments through text structure.
ELA.RI.PP.8.5	Analyze how an author conveys or develops their perspective or purpose in a text and by acknowledging and responding to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
ELA.RL.MF.8.6	Evaluate the choices made (by the authors, directors or actors) when presenting an idea in different mediums, including the representation/s or various perspectives of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), as well as what is emphasized or absent in each work.
ELA.W.IW.8.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; and organize ideas, concepts, and information, using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aid in comprehension.
ELA.W.IW.8.2.B	Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
ELA.W.IW.8.2.C	Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
ELA.W.IW.8.2.D	Use precise language and domain/grade-level-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
ELA.W.IW.8.2.E	Establish and maintain a formal style/academic style, approach, and form.
ELA.W.IW.8.2.F	Provide a concluding statement or section (e.g., sentence, part of a paragraph, paragraph, or multiple paragraphs) that synthesizes the information or explanation presented.
ELA.W.NW.8.3.A	Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
ELA.W.NW.8.3.B	Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
ELA.W.NW.8.3.C	Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.
ELA.W.NW.8.3.D	Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
ELA.W.NW.8.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.
ELA.W.WP.8.4	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, sustaining effort to complete complex writing tasks; seeking out assistance, models, sources or feedback to improve understanding or refine final products; focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
ELA.W.WR.8.5	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
ELA.W.SE.8.6	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

ELA.W.RW.8.7	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
ELA.SL.PE.8.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
ELA.SL.PE.8.1.B	Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
ELA.SL.PE.8.1.C	Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.
ELA.SL.PE.8.1.D	Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented.
ELA.SL.II.8.2	Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.
ELA.SL.PI.8.4	Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
ELA.SL.UM.8.5	Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.
ELA.SL.AS.8.6	Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

## Materials/Activities/Resources

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### Core materials:

- HMH Into Literature
- Schoolwide Writing

### Web Site Resources:

- Ed Your Friend in Learning
- Schoolwide Writing
- Newsela
- Lexia
- Reading A-Z

## Technology

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- Newsela
- Lexia
- Reading A-Z
- EdPuzzle
- Screencastify

- Full list on district teacher page

## **Assessment**

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### **Formative Assessment**

- Teacher Observation
- Comprehension Quizzes
- Running Records
- Daily Lesson Checks and Correct & Redirect Opportunities in the Teacher's Guide

### **Summative Assessment**

- Unit Test
- On Demand Pieces
- District Benchmarks
- F&P Benchmark (special education)

## **Accommodations & Modifications**

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### **Special Education**

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Newsela/Readworks/Reading A-Z level reading passages
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe
- Study Guides
- Mixed Ability Grouping

### **504**

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Newsela/Readworks/Reading A-Z level reading passages
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts

- Limit number of questions
- Scribe
- Study Guides
- Mixed Ability Grouping

### **ELL**

- Translation device/dictionary
- In class/pull out support with ESL teacher
- Newsela/Readworks/Reading A-Z level reading passages
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts

### **At-Risk of Failure**

- Additional time during intervention time
- Newsela/Readworks/Reading A-Z level reading passages
- Questions read aloud
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts

### **Gifted & Talented**

- Independent projects
- PEP/GEM class
- Above-Level Reading Materials

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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Social Studies Connections: Discuss Government Oppression; Research Languages, AAPI, Immigration

Visual and Performing Arts: Research Kazakh Folk Art

## **Social and Emotional Learning Connections**

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Learning Mindset: Self-Management, Social Awareness, Self-Awareness, Relationship Skills

## Cultural Connections:

"Places We Call Home" - students will learn about how places shape people's identity and sense of belonging.

"The Book of Unknown Americans" - an immigrant from Panama

"My Favorite Chaperone" - immigrants from Kazakhstan

"Spirit Walking in Tundra" - settlement of Native Americans

"A Common Bond" - teens forge friendships despite differences

## **21st Century Life Literacies & Key Skills**

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Financial Health

Financial Landscape

Money Management

Career Awareness and Planning

Creativity and Innovation

Critical Thinking and Problem-solving

Digital Citizenship

Global and Cultural Awareness

Information and Media Literacy

Technology Literacy

Standards in Action: Climate Change

## **Career Ready Practices**

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- CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason
- CRP5. Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.

