

LANGUAGE CURRICULUM

CROSS-CURRICULAR AND INTEGRATED LEARNING

Students need well-developed language skills to succeed in all subject areas. The development of skills and knowledge in language is often enhanced by learning in other subject areas. Teachers should ensure that all students have ample opportunities to explore a subject from multiple perspectives by emphasizing cross-curricular learning and integrated learning.

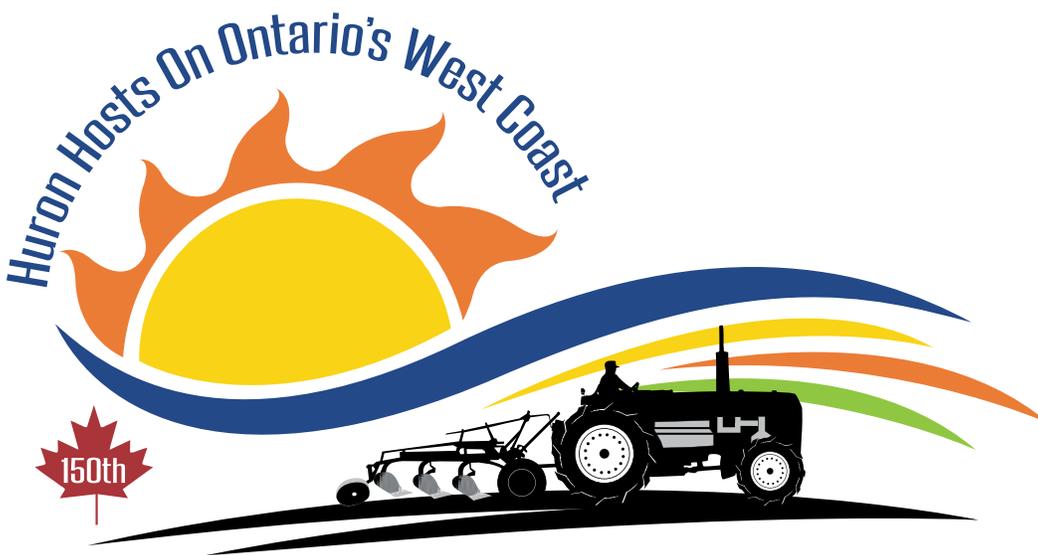
Their studies in the different subject areas help students develop their language skills, providing them with authentic purposes for reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and representing.

LITERACY IN SOCIAL STUDIES, HISTORY, AND GEOGRAPHY.

Literacy is defined as the ability to use language and images in rich and varied forms to read, write, listen, view, represent, and think critically about ideas. It involves the capacity to access, manage, and evaluate information; to think imaginatively and analytically; and to communicate thoughts and ideas effectively. Literacy includes critical thinking and reasoning to solve problems and make decisions related to issues of fairness, equity, and social justice. Literacy connects individuals and communities and is an essential tool for personal growth and active participation in a cohesive, democratic society.

(Reach Every Student: Energizing Ontario Education, 2008, p. 6)

Literacy instruction must be embedded across the curriculum. All teachers of all subjects ... are teachers of literacy. (Think Literacy Success, Grades 7–12: The Report of the Expert Panel on Students at Risk in Ontario, 2003, p. 10) (The Ontario Curriculum 2013, Social Studies Grades 1 to 6 History and Geography Grades 7 and 8, pg. 48)



2017

**100th INTERNATIONAL
PLOWING MATCH & RURAL EXPO**

SEPT 19-23 • WALTON, ONTARIO

LANGUAGE CURRICULUM

THE SHEEP FARMER ACTIVITY

Sheep are hardy animals. This means that it can survive in tough climates, like the cold or dry climates and feed on different types of grass. Sheep move around in large groups called flocks. They graze on fresh grass. In the olden days, a shepherd and his dog will watch over the flock. However, in modern times, some farms are so big that they have to go on horsebacks and motorcycles to herd them.

The female sheep is called a ewe. The young are called lambs and the male is called the ram.

Primary Writing Activity

- KWL Chart completed before attending the Plowing Match and followed up based on information obtained from your excursion

Junior Writing Activity

- Research Project about sheep
- Possible areas to explore:
 - Anatomy/Appearance: What does your animal look like? How big is it? What shape is its body? What does an average one weigh?
 - Diet: What does a sheep eat and how does it get its food? Is it an herbivore (plant eater), carnivore (meat eater), omnivore (eating meat and plants), or something else?
 - Habitat and Range: What type of biome does a sheep prefer (does it live in the desert, swamp, tundra, deep sea, coral reef, tropical rainforest, pond, or other habitat)? Where in the world does it live? List the continent(s), country/countries, and/or smaller areas that it lives in.
 - Life Cycle/Reproduction: Give information on a sheep's life cycle and reproduction.
 - Behavior: Describe interesting features of a sheep's behavior.
 - Defense/Offense: How does it defend itself (and/or attack other animals)?
 - Enemies: What animals eat or otherwise kill sheep?
 - Species Survival Status: Is a sheep a species that is in danger of extinction? If so, why? Has it lost habitat, lost a food source, or has it been overhunted?
 - Something Special: Is there anything special about a sheep?

4H ACTIVITY

4-H came to Canada in 1913 where it found its first home in Roland, Manitoba. "Learn To Do By Doing" is the learning approach that 4-H clubs are focused on. Today 4-H Ontario has an expansive reach and can be found in communities all across the province; including rural, urban, and suburban areas. The 4-H program is still well rooted in a strong agriculture history but recognizes that everyone can benefit from the holistic and socially conscious approach 4-H takes to learning. Agriculture, food and the environment will always be an important part of the 4-H program, but Clubs that cover non-agriculture topics are also important to today's youth. Youth in 4-H have the freedom and ability to tackle the issues that matter to them most; this makes the 4-H program unique and ever changing.

Primary Letter Writing Activity

- Write a letter to a local 4-H club inviting them to come to your school to share what they are doing in their club and what 4-H is all about.

Junior Letter Writing Activity

- Research the history of 4-H with your class.
- Write a letter to a local 4-H organization outlining your research of the history of 4-H and invite them to come and speak to your class to answer questions about the role of 4-H in your community.