



## Unit 4: Raise Your Voice Research Project

<b>Subject Area:</b> ELA	<b>Course:</b> 8th Grade		
<b>Unit Title:</b> Raise Your Voice Research Project	<b>Grade(s):</b> 8	<b>Start:</b>	<b>End:</b>
<b>Unit Summary:</b> We believe that student voices are valuable and vital to creating change. By acting on their values, students can inspire others and strengthen their sense of self. In this unit, students will investigate a topic of their choice and create a research paper.			

### Stage 1: Desired Results

#### Massachusetts Learning Standards

##### READING Lit.

8.1 - cite textual evidence based on explicit and implicit meaning ; 8.2 - determine theme; 8.4 - word meaning & impact; 8.10 - read and understand high level text

##### READING Informational Text

8.1 - cite textual evidence based on explicit and implicit meaning ; 8.2 - determine central idea; 8.3 - analyze a text makes connections and distinctions amongst ideas; 8.4 - word meaning & impact; 8.5 - analyze the structure of a paragraph and its components; 8.6 - determine author's purpose; 8.7 - pros and cons to different media; 8.9 - analyze conflicting information in two or more pieces

##### Writing

8.1 Write argument; 8.2 Write informative; 8.4 Produce clear and coherent writing; 8.5 Writing process practice; 8.6 Use technology (Internet) to write; 8.7 Conduct short research project to answer questions; 8.8 Gather evidence from multiple sources; 8.9 Gather evidence from literature; 8.10 Write routinely

##### Speaking & Listening

8.1 Engage in discussion; 8.2 Analyze purpose of information presented; 8.3 Delineate a speaker's argument; 8.4 Present claims and findings; 8.5 Integrate multimedia into presentations; 8.6 adapt speech to a variety of contexts



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### Language

8.1 Demonstrate a command of grammar and usage; 8.2 Demonstrate a command of capitalization, punctuation and spelling; 8.3 Use knowledge of language; 8.4 Determine word meaning; 8.5 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language; 8.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases

### Transfer (Authentic, relevant application of learning to new situations)

#### **Students will be able to independently use their learning to...**

Research and write their own research paper.

### Meaning

#### **Enduring Understandings**

##### **Students will understand that...**

- Identifying areas for change fuels personal growth and social progress. Students will investigate issues and topics they are passionate about, gaining a deeper understanding of the changes they want to see in the world.
- Persuasive writing and effective communication skills can motivate others to take action. In this unit, students will develop persuasive writing techniques to communicate their ideas, support their claims with evidence, and appeal to their audience's emotions and values.

#### **Essential Questions**

##### **Students will consider...**

1. How are my values challenged?
2. What do I want to see changed?
3. How can I persuade others to take action?



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Acquisition	
Knowledge	Skills
<p><b>Students will know...</b></p> <p>RI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine an author's point of view or purpose in informational text.</li> <li>Analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.</li> <li>Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums to present an idea.</li> <li>Evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.</li> </ul> <p>W</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</li> <li>Conduct short research projects to answer a question, including a self-generated question.</li> <li>Use several sources in research.</li> <li>Evaluate the credibility and accuracy of each source.</li> <li>Quote and paraphrase others' work while avoiding plagiarism.</li> <li>Use a standard format for citation.</li> </ul> <p>SL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze the purpose of information presented in different media and formats.</li> <li>Determine a speaker's argument and specific claims.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Students will be skilled at...</b></p> <p>RI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine an author's point of view or purpose in informational text.</li> <li>Analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.</li> <li>Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums to present an idea.</li> <li>Evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.</li> </ul> <p>W</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</li> <li>Conduct short research projects to answer a question, including a self-generated question.</li> <li>Use several sources in research.</li> <li>Evaluate the credibility and accuracy of each source.</li> <li>Quote and paraphrase others' work while avoiding plagiarism.</li> <li>Use a standard format for citation.</li> </ul> <p>SL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze the purpose of information presented in different media and formats.</li> <li>Determine a speaker's argument and specific claims.</li> </ul>



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- Evaluate the reasoning and evidence presented for soundness and relevance.
- Identify when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

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