

8TH GRADE ELA

AUTHENTIC LEARNING EXPERIENCES

BAKERSFIELD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Subject	Link to Core	Title of & Link to Lesson Plan	Description	What students will learn
ELA	Unit 1	Wordless Video	Students will plan and create a short, wordless video that communicates story plot and emotions.	This project will help students learn how to convey a clear story through visual storytelling and elaborate on how images and audience enhance a visual story.
ELA	Unit 1	Create a Suspenseful Media Presentation	Students will create a suspenseful short film or audio drama (podcast).	This project will help students apply techniques of suspense, such as foreshadowing, pacing, and the use of dramatic irony
ELA	Unit 1	News Article: "The Aftermath"	Students will write an article in journalistic style, with details that imagine the "real-world" consequences of these suspenseful events.	This project will help students write fictional newspaper articles as a real-life event.
ELA	Unit 2	Social Media Post for <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>	Students will create social media posts from the perspective of a character in the book, <i>The Boy in The Striped Pajamas</i> .	This project will help students analyze perspective and generate ideas from character's traits, thoughts, feelings, and experiences.
ELA	Unit 2	Digital Letter Writing Project	Students will create a digital letter project where they can choose a character from "Dear Miss Breed" to write to	This project will help students use technology to add elements like images, videos, or audio clips that relate to the themes of internment and resilience.
ELA	Unit 3	Flipped Poetry	Students will write a poem from a son's point of view like Langston Hughes did with "Mother to Son".	This project will help students analyze poetry and take on the perspective from another character.
ELA	Unit 3	Identity Collage or Vision Board	Students create a visual representation for a character from a text they have read.	This project will help students closely analyze a text to identify words, images, and symbols to represent a character.

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ELA	Unit 4	Infographic Poster	Students will create a digital OR paper infographic that visually represents key themes from “Paul Revere’s Ride.”	The project combines art and language skills, fostering a deeper understanding of the text.
ELA	Unit 4	Soundtrack Project	Students will research music from the Civil War era and create a playlist that reflects the themes and emotions of “Across Five Aprils.”	This project will help students select songs that represent different characters or events and write a brief explanation of why they chose each song and how it connects to the character and/or story.