

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
English Language Arts Learning Expectations: Grade 6

Massachusetts  
Standards

Strand:  
Speaking and Listening

Students will be able  
to:

Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (*one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led*) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.  
(Standard 1)

Big Ideas

- Discussions are an essential context for learning new concepts and ideas.
- Discussions make thinking public, allowing listeners to reflect on the thinking and problem solving process of others.
- Participants in discussions refine their thinking by expanding on the ideas of others, posing hypotheses, and working toward solutions to problems.
- Skilled presenters plan and deliver oral presentations by considering how to most effectively convey information to others in order to maintain an audience's interest, attention and respect.
- Through the study of English grammar and word usage, students gain more control over their speaking allowing them to deliver more precise messages.

Key Outcomes

Students will demonstrate an understanding of **speaking and listening**:

- Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (*e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally*) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study. (Standard 2)
- Present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation. (Standard 4)
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grade 6 Language Standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.) (Standard 6)

Essential Knowledge and Skills

Students will:

- Come to discussions prepared having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion. (Standard 1a)
- Follow rules for collegial discussions, set specific goals and

deadlines, and define individual roles as needed. *(Standard 1b)*

- Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion. *(Standard 1c)*
- Review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing. *(Standard 1d)*
- Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not. *(Standard 3)*
- Include multimedia components (*e.g., graphics, images, music, sound*) and visual displays in presentations to clarify information. *(Standard 5)*