



# *Discovery Zone:* **Exploring Shakespeare's Characters**

## *Alignment with the BC Curriculum for ELA grades 4-9*

The resources in [this collection](#) provide a brief synopsis of each play, as well as insights into a main character, including unpacking the language related to that main character. These activities can be scaled to provide introductory lessons for grades 4-9; the depth and sophistication of the engagement can be increased as appropriate for grade level and students' abilities.

### **Big Ideas**

- Texts can be understood from different perspectives (Grade 4, 5)
- Using language in creative and playful ways helps us understand how language works (Grade 4, 5)
- Questioning what we hear, read, and view contributes to our ability to be educated and engaged citizens (Grade 5, 9)
- Language and text can be a source of creativity and joy (Grade 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Exploring stories and other texts helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world (Grade 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Exploring and sharing multiple perspectives extends our thinking (Grade 6, 7)
- People understand text differently depending on their worldviews and perspectives (Grade 8, 9)
- Texts are socially, culturally, and historically constructed (Grade 8, 9)

### **Comprehend & Connect**

- Use a variety of comprehension strategies before, during, and after reading, listening, or viewing to deepen understanding of text (Grade 4)
- Use a variety of comprehension strategies before, during, and after reading, listening, or viewing to guide inquiry and deepen understanding of text (Grade 5)
- Apply appropriate strategies to comprehend written, oral, and visual texts, guide inquiry, and extend thinking (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Apply a variety of thinking skills to gain meaning from texts (Grade 4, 5)
- Use personal experience and knowledge to connect to text and deepen understanding of self, community, and world (Grade 4, 5)
- Construct meaningful personal connections between self, text, and world (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Think critically, creatively, and reflectively to explore ideas within, between, and beyond texts (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Respond to texts in personal and creative ways (Grade 5)
- Respond to text in personal, creative, and critical ways (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)

## Comprehend & Connect, continued

- Identify how differences in context, perspectives, and voice influence meaning in texts (Grade 4, 5)
- Recognize and identify the role of personal, social, and cultural contexts, values, and perspectives in texts (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Recognize how language constructs personal, social, and cultural identity (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)

## Create & Communicate

- Exchange ideas and perspectives to build shared understanding (Grade 4, 5)
- Exchange ideas and viewpoints to build shared understanding and extend thinking (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Use writing and design processes to plan, develop, and create texts for a variety of purposes and audiences (Grade 4, 5)
- Use writing and design processes to plan, develop, and create engaging and meaningful literary and informational texts for a variety of purposes and audiences (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Use language in creative and playful ways to develop style (Grade 4, 5)
- Transform ideas and information to create original texts (Grade 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Select and use appropriate features, forms, and genres according to audience, purpose, and message (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)

### Students will be able to:

- Think critically, creatively, and reflectively to explore ideas within, between, and beyond texts.
- Transform ideas and information to create original texts and to develop a deeper understanding of a character in the play.

*You can find Assessment Rubrics for English Language Arts grades 4-9 in the [Discovery Zone](#).*

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