



# *Discovery Zone:*

## **Making Shakespeare Your Own**

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

Each resource in [this collection](#) provides opportunities for students to engage with Shakespeare's characters and language, offering strategies to unpack difficult language, exploring vocabulary and imagery and finding ways to connect Shakespeare's ideas with students' lives and experiences. 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)
- Consider different purposes, audiences, and perspectives in exploring texts (Grade 4, 5)
- Recognize and appreciate how different features, forms, and genres of texts reflect various purposes, audiences, and messages (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)

## Comprehend & Connect, continued

- Respond to texts in personal and creative ways (Grade 4, 5)
- Respond to text in personal, creative, and critical ways (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)
- 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)
- Recognize how literary elements, techniques, and devices enhance meaning in texts (Grade 4, 5)
- Understand how literary elements, techniques, and devices enhance and shape meaning (Grade 6, 7)
- Recognize how literary elements, techniques, and devices enhance and shape meaning (Grade 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 text (Grade 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Develop and apply expanding word knowledge (Grade 4)
- Select and use appropriate features, forms, and genres according to audience, purpose, and message (Grade 6, 7, 8, 9)

### Students will be able to:

- Use a variety of comprehension strategies before, during, and after reading a Shakespearean text to guide inquiry and deepen understanding of text.
- Respond to a Shakespearean text in personal, creative, and critical ways.

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

This document was prepared by BC teachers Cheryl Angst and Robert Manery.