

## Literacy Components

### Five Significant Components

- 1. BUILDING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH CONTENT-RICH NONFICTION:** In this component of literacy, students build knowledge about the world and their content areas through primary and secondary texts rather than lectures or textbook questions.
- 2. PARTICIPATING IN CLOSE READING:** With close reading, grade-appropriate texts are read by students and provide the basis for instruction. Teachers focus on using close reading to scaffold larger and more complex texts in the curriculum, which can require more time, space, and support. Close reading involves elements such as: analysis of author's purpose, text structure, drawing inferences, and synthesis.
- 3. FORMULATING TEXT-BASED ANSWERS:** No matter the content, analysis is grounded in evidence from the text. Citing sources is crucial; students should develop claims that are supported with quotes, examples, and details. Whether it be writing or speaking, literacy emphasizes the use of evidence from sources evaluated for validity to inform or make an argument.
- 4. REGULAR PRACTICE WITH COMPLEX TEXTS AND ACADEMIC VOCABULARY:** Through multiple genres of reading, students can constantly build the transferable vocabulary they need to access grade-level complex texts. An effective method for building vocabulary and comprehension is to scaffold similar content in with increasingly complex texts.
- 5. DEVELOPING CRITICAL THINKING THROUGH SPEAKING AND LISTENING:** Students learn how to collaboratively participate in conversations building others' ideas into synthesis and expressing their own ideas clearly and persuasively. Many reading and writing skills can be developed through speaking and listening; they are produced and practiced verbally rather than in written form.