

# ALFA



# LAB

## Accelerating Literacy for Adolescents

As one of the Talent Development Secondary 9th grade interventions, Accelerating Literacy For Adolescents (ALFA), was created to empower students to build and strengthen the literacy skills necessary for them to become successful, life-long readers and writers.



### Guiding Principles

- ★ Student engagement and motivation
- ★ Small teams rotate through learning stations that motivate students to apply specific skills
- ★ Explicit instruction of reading comprehension strategies
- ★ Small group instruction in guided reading
- ★ Build technological literacy through use of computers
- ★ Ongoing assessment to closely monitor student progress



# Course Components



**WHOLE GROUP INSTRUCTION**

DAILY LAUNCH Objectives:

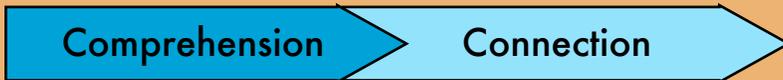
- ◆ Establish the purpose for the day's activities
- ◆ Provide directions and/or relevant background information

Following DAILY LAUNCH, students work in small groups, rotating through several "satellite" stations, where they work individually and/or collaboratively to apply comprehension skills, word knowledge, and writing skills.



During MAIN STATION, the teacher guides students into, through, and beyond reading selections from the core text.

- ◆ Teacher models strategies
- ◆ Activates background knowledge
- ◆ Introduce key vocabulary (weighty words)
- ◆ Models use of learning tools such as graphic organizers



During COMPREHENSION CONNECTION, students engage in activities that require them to *construct* and *apply* knowledge.

- ◆ Read and respond to text-based questions
- ◆ Use graphic organizers
- ◆ Organize text information
- ◆ Specific writing tasks



During MEDIA STATION, students engage in tasks that require them to integrate literacy skills (listening, reading, writing, viewing).

- ◆ Read and respond to text-based questions
- ◆ Use graphic organizers
- ◆ Engage students with technology; web-quests, research, online tools

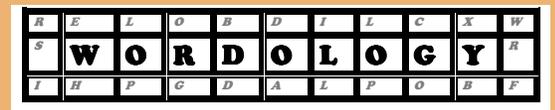


Accelerating Literacy for Adolescents

The Strategy Navigator guides and supports students in applying strategies throughout the reading process:



- ◆ When Previewing
- ◆ When Checking and Connecting
- ◆ When Scoping Words and Phrases
- ◆ When Code Cracking
- ◆ When Reflecting



During WORDOLOGY, students engage in "hands-on" activities that increase and reinforce their knowledge of age appropriate vocabulary.

- ◆ Identify word parts, word meaning
- ◆ Examine vocabulary in context
- ◆ Fun, "hands-on" games to reinforce word recall and meaning

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